

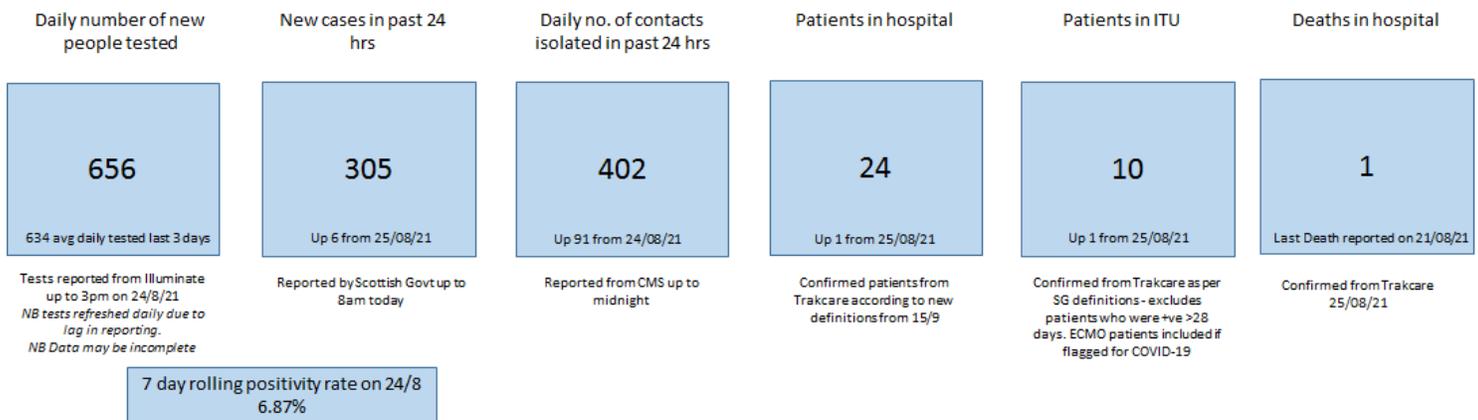
Here is the brief for Thursday 26 August 2021.

Staff 'flu vaccination - update Planning continues for this year's staff 'flu vaccination programme. As in previous years, staff will be offered the opportunity to book appointments or to access vaccination via the Peer to Peer scheme, as appropriate. However, this year the Occupational Health Service will **not** be booking appointments. A self-registration portal will be used instead and details on this will be available in the coming weeks. Please do not contact OHS for an appointment, as they will not be able to assist you.

'Flu remains a serious illness and we would encourage all those who are eligible to take up the offer of vaccination.

Finally, we know there is also significant interest in any potential COVID-19 booster programme. It remains the case that we await guidance from JCVI on what form this programme will take. This is expected in mid-September and we will look to implement their recommendations as quickly as possible.

Grampian data The local update for today is shown below – including a new high in the number of cases detected.



A national update is available on the [Public Health Scotland daily dashboard](#).

Twice weekly asymptomatic testing With the lifting of many restrictions we are now seeing a significant rise in cases, as evidenced in the data we share with you daily. We're therefore urging everyone who has not yet signed up to participate in the twice weekly lateral flow testing, to consider doing so now.

New self-isolation guidance may also require you to have enough LFD kits to support 10 days continuous testing. **Please make sure you have a stock of LFD kits to support this and that all test results are recorded and your line manager informed, should this apply to you.**

Remember, vaccination and testing together are our best defence when it comes to protecting each other, our families, communities and patients. Vaccination alone is not enough - you can still unknowingly catch and transmit the virus.

Please click on the following link to request your kit:

<https://www.nhsgrampian.org/covid-19/information-for-nhs-grampian-staff/subpages/lateral-flow-testing/>

If you have any questions or problems registering for your kit or are having problems accessing additional kits to support 10 days of testing in line with the new self-isolation guidance, please contact: gram.staffcovid19testing@nhs.scot

[Finally, a number of staff have contributed to this video, explaining why they take part in the testing scheme.](#)

Thank you for your continued support and for choosing to test.

Patient discharge service – partnership with RVS Royal Voluntary Service are working in partnership with NHS Grampian to deliver a Patient Transport Discharge service since January 2021. Our volunteer drivers transport patients' home across the Grampian area. Our volunteers provide a friendly and reliable service ensuring they arrive safely home. For those who are not being met at home they can help settle the patient in back home.

If you would like to refer a patient the service is coordinated via Site and Capacity 01224 555788.

Inter hospital transfer referrals from Maternity Hospital and Roxburghe House can contact our transport coordinator, Garry Donald, directly 07929 742245.

Our volunteers are available Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 5:00pm.

To find out more about the service please email grampiansupport@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk.

Quality and Safety in Healthcare Event 2021, “Be Civil, Be Safe” This year's Quality Event is being held virtually on Tuesday 26 October from 9am to 12.30pm (more information on the programme content and registration to follow).

Call for poster abstracts is now open

This is a great opportunity to raise awareness of your improvement project, gain recognition, share best practice and make new contacts. [Please complete this online form to submit your abstract](#) by Friday 17 September 2021. If successful, poster presentations will be required to be submitted by Friday 15 October. Poster presentations will be displayed via the intranet in pdf format. There will be prizes for the top three posters.

Thought for the day I make no pretence of having my finger on the pulse of popular culture, so I am aware that I am incredibly late to the party when it comes to reading 'The Boy, the mole, the fox, and the Horse'. I devoured it one sitting last night. Working in Corporate Communications gives me the privilege of meeting staff from all corners of the organisation, and I thought of many of you as I read it. I know books like this can often be Marmite, inspiring love and loathing in equal measure, so I hope you don't mind me sharing one of the images today (next page) – you are all indeed brave and magnificent. Genuinely.

Tune of the day A big thank you to Laura Harper for today's suggestion – [It's Raining Men by The Weathergirls](#). Not only is the video a slice of absolute 80s joy (the green screen work is quite 'something') but as a staple of student discos/nights out/weddings practically since it was released, it is bound to evoke happy memories.

We're always on the look-out for your suggestions of a great song to end the day (or start it, depending on when you read this brief) so just drop us a line via gram.communications@nhs.scot That's also your first port of call if you've got any queries or an item to share.

"Sometimes," said the horse.
"Sometimes what?" asked the boy.
"Sometimes just getting up
and carrying on is
brave and magnificent."

