

Monday 29 January 2024

Update from infection prevention & control team We are seeing increased numbers of respiratory and enteric illness which are affecting patients and staff. Please ensure:

1. appropriate testing is undertaken when symptoms present. This avoids delays in decision making regarding patient placement and ward closures/opening.
2. adhere to IPC practices e.g. water and soap not ABHR for enteric illness
3. appropriate use of PPE
4. thorough cleaning of environment and shared equipment.
5. Staff with symptoms of diarrhoea and/or vomiting must not attend work. If this develops at work, they must leave immediately. They must remain off work until 48hrs symptom-free.

Please contact IP&C for further advice if required.

Social Media Use – a reminder There is no doubt social media can be a positive force but, as we're sure you are all aware, it can also have a negative impact on us as health & social care family. Unfortunately, there have been a couple of recent examples where current members of NHS Grampian staff have posted – anonymously or otherwise – comments and material which is disrespectful, or calls into question other teams or staff groups.

While these incidents are absolutely in the minority, it's disappointing, and we'd like to remind you of the advice in the [Personal Use of Social Media guidance](#); take a second and pause before posting to imagine how your comments may come across and their potential impact on your colleagues. As well as this guidance, those of you registered with professional bodies such as the GMC, NMC, or HCPC, should consult their social media policies

Remember, be kind to one another, we're all in this together!

Vaccination – staff drop-in clinics There will be two further drop-in clinics, open to anyone working in health & social care and still to get their 'flu or COVID-19 jabs. These will take place tomorrow (30 January) and on Tuesday 6 January, in eye outpatients (yellow zone, ARI) between 10am-4.30pm. The clinics will close for lunch 12.30-1pm, please be aware at busy times you may be asked to come back later.

Aberdeen Dental Outreach Centre is currently inviting unregistered patients for treatment within student teaching clinics. Student treatment, provided within NHS Grampian dental clinics, is free of charge, and is supervised by fully qualified and experienced dentists. If you are over 18 years of age, are not currently registered with a dentist and are able to attend appointments during working hours, further information can be obtained by calling Argyll Dental Practice on 01224 551581, ext. 51581 or emailing gram.argylldental@nhs.scot An assessment is carried out prior to a patient being accepted to the student clinic to ensure student teaching requirements are matched to patient treatment needs.

Datix surgeries There are two Datix surgeries taking place on Thursday (1 February), between 1-2pm, and 2-3pm. Book on to ask a question or seek advice on anything to do with Datix. Booking is via Turas (requires log-in): [Datix Surgeries | Turas | Learn \(nhs.scot\)](#)

ICYMI - changes to the Quality Development Team/patient information leaflets If you need to contact the Quality Development team, please email gram.qualitydevelopment@nhs.scot The voicemail is no longer checked regularly, and email is the best way to contact us. If you require copies of patient information leaflets, please state the leaflet name, leaflet number, quantity required and delivery address. **A maximum of 100 copies will now be printed in house.** Orders larger than this will be sent to our external printer. Thank you for your co-operation.

Grampian Cancer Care Network Professional Conference 2024 We are delighted to announce that registration is now open for this year's Grampian Cancer Care Network Professional Conference which will take place on Wednesday 6 March 2024 at the Beach Ballroom in Aberdeen.

The theme for this year's conference is patient-centred care. As always, the event will emphasise networking, sharing our challenges and successes, and feature a diverse range of educational talks and interactive workshops. Please see the attached programme for further details, including the registration link via Eventbrite. If you have any queries, please contact us on gram.mcn@nhs.scot

Final call – review of job titles for nursing & midwifery Time is running out if you wish to participate in a review of the job titles used for the nursing & midwifery workforce. You can give your feedback via [this short Microsoft Form](#), but it will close for responses on Wednesday (31 January).

Pause for thought Currently, what burns brightly for you and what energy does this reveal? What power do you now hold?

Tune of the day It's time to say another farewell (though not forever) ...Karen Mair retires from the district nursing team in Portlethen on Wednesday, though we're pleased to say she will be coming back in a different role. For Karen – and everyone else wondering how it is STILL January – please enjoy All Saints and [Pure Shores](#) (EP)

If you want to request a tune, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via gram.communications@nhs.scot