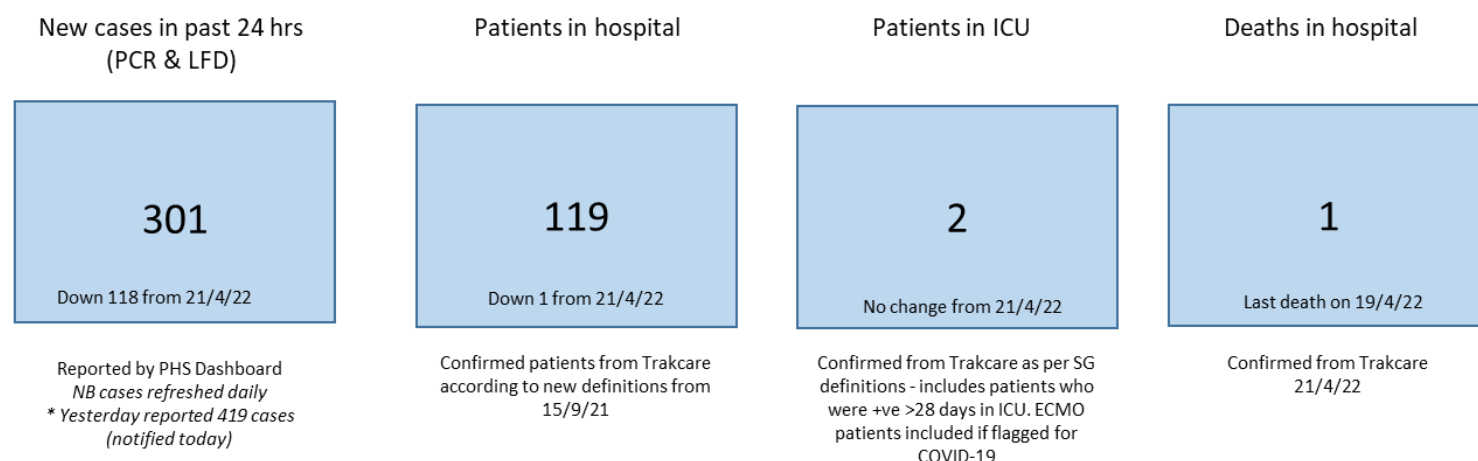


Here is the brief for Friday 22 April 2022.

Lateral Flow Device testing for hospital/care home visitors It remains possible for individuals who are visiting relatives or friends in hospitals or care homes to order free Lateral Flow Device tests. Test kits can be obtained by [completing an online form on the GOV.UK website](#) or by calling 119 (available 7 days a week, 7am-11pm). Test kits typically take three days to arrive once ordered. As an organisation, we are strongly encouraging anyone visiting family or friends to continue with LFD testing. We are also reminding the public COVID-19 is not the only risk and if they have other symptoms, such as vomiting, diarrhoea, muscle aches, coughing, sneezing, and/or sore throats, they should postpone planned visits.

Grampian data The local update is shown below; [the PHS daily dashboard can be viewed here](#).



The pandemic in Scotland and Grampian: Today's publication of the Office National Statistics Infection Survey reports a fourth consecutive weekly fall in infection levels in Scotland. For the week ending 16th April, ONS estimates 1 in 19 people were infected, compared to 1 in 17 in the previous week, and 1 in 11 at our highest in the week ending 20th March. So things look to be heading in the right direction – with similar trends seen in other UK countries. We'll be keeping a close eye on this in the coming weeks and how prevalence is affected by changes in lateral flow testing and mask wearing as a legal requirement. Hospital admissions continue to decline, with 59 in the last 7 days compared to 104 in the previous week and those being admitted FOR covid decreasing, with 9 admissions in the last week vs 25 in the previous seven days. Consequently, covid occupancy overall has reduced by 16% from last week – although remaining high at 117, comparable with hospitalisation levels experienced during the January 2021 (Delta) wave. ONS estimates of long covid suggest that approx. 15,000 people in Grampian still have symptoms 4 weeks after their first infection and almost 7,000 have had symptoms lasting longer than 1 year.

That was the week that was This is your regular Friday run-through of key items in this week's briefs. [All briefs are available to read online here](#).

Monday 18 – Public Holiday, no brief issued.

Tuesday 19 – End of new referrals to psychological resilience hub, further extension of hospital visiting, 2022 Corporate Games opportunity.

Wednesday 20 – Further updates on de-escalation of COVID-19 infection prevention & control measures, upcoming road closures at ARI/RACH Emergency Departments, Spring booster eligibility reminder.

Thursday 21 – [Episode 7 of 'Caroline in Conversation with...'](#), reflection on Winter period from Health Intelligence team, progress report on Outpatient Parenteral Antimicrobial Treatment service.

Rocky Horror Theatre Offer Richard O'Brien's famous musical returns to His Majesty's Theatre, in Aberdeen, next week and tickets are available at £20 for health and social care workers.

The offer applies to performances from Monday-Thursday.

To redeem, you must log in to your Aberdeen Performing Arts account (or create a new one), add your selected seats (max 4) to your basket and apply **promocode: TIMEWARP20**

Please note these tickets are limited and this offer is subject to availability.

Tune of the day David Miller makes the final request of this week, selecting [Once in a Lifetime](#) by Talking Heads. This is dedicated to his colleague Mahendran Chetty, who we understand has had a special day today.

As ever, we wish you an enjoyable weekend. Take some down time if you are able. If you are on shift, thank you and take care. The brief will return on Monday.

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