

Here is the brief for Tuesday 27 July 2021.

Asymptomatic LFD Testing We have frequently promoted the asymptomatic staff testing programme via this brief, but we thought this time you would like to hear from those 'on the floor'. [Pam Brown, Denise Sweeney, and James Montague have been kind enough to share their experiences in this short video.](#)

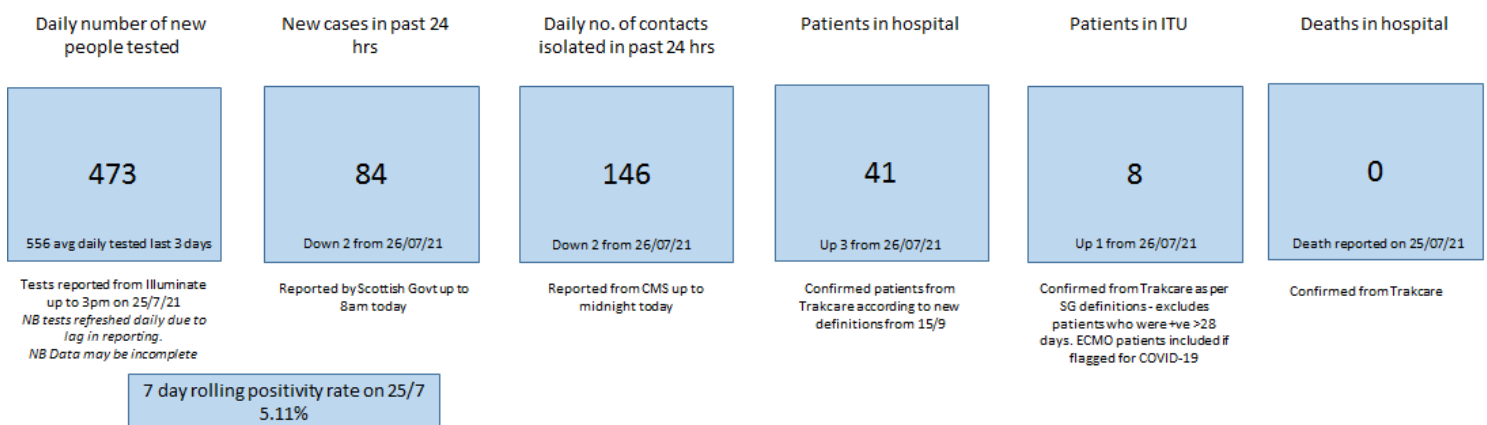
Vaccinations **and** testing together are our best defence in preventing further spread of the virus. **Vaccination alone is not enough.** Those of us who are vaccinated can still, unknowingly, catch and spread the virus. This can result in serious and, in some cases, devastating illness at any age, even in younger people. Help protect us all by taking part in asymptomatic twice weekly testing – 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 please contact: gram.staffcovid19testing@nhs.scot Thank you for your continued support and for choosing to test.

COVID-19 vaccination & pregnancy Vaccination is recommended in pregnancy, but the decision whether to have the vaccine is an individual choice. A leaflet has been put together jointly by the Royal College of Midwives, the Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists, the MacDonald Obstetric Medicine Society, and the UK Teratology Information Service, to help you make an informed choice about whether to get the COVID-19 vaccine if you are pregnant or trying to get pregnant. This has been shared via NHS Grampian's social media accounts and is available to read online here: <https://www.rcm.org.uk/media/5203/2021-02-24-combined-info-sheet-and-decision-aid.pdf>

Grampian data Here is the local update for today, including the 7-day rolling positivity rate. As a reminder, this rate is arrived at by dividing the number of positive tests in the past 7 days by the number of tests carried out in the past 7 days. Repeat tests are included in both categories. The figure for the "daily number of new people tested" is only for the number of tests for people who have not been tested previously.



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

PPE donning & doffing training New dates have been set for this training, as follows: **3/10/24 August** and **7/21 September**. You can book your place by emailing gram.ipc-donn-doff-training@nhs.scot

Calling all blood donors! The Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service is looking for O-, O+ and A+ blood donors to attend Aberdeen Donor Centre in the coming days and weeks to give blood. The good weather, lockdown easing and the school holidays, mean we really need donors with these specific blood groups. We're particularly keen to welcome O- donors this week.

Donors can book an appointment by calling 0345 90 90 999 or by visiting scotblood.co.uk.

Tune of the day Fiona Russell is at the jukebox today and the cover version she has suggested is really quite something. Not because it's unusual – it's a version of Hallelujah (originally by Leonard Cohen), which everyone and their mother has had a crack at. However, the arrangement is what really makes this one sing (sorry...). [Rufus Wainwright joins Choir!Choir!Choir! for a 1,500 voice rendition, filmed in Toronto in 2016](#). A beautiful song, so many people joining their voices together...it's emotional. Keep a tissue handy, just in case.

Get in touch! If you've got a question, an item to share with people working in health & social care, or just want to suggest a tune of the day, we want to hear from you! Drop us a line via gram.communications@nhs.scot.