

COVID-19 Brief

coronavirus

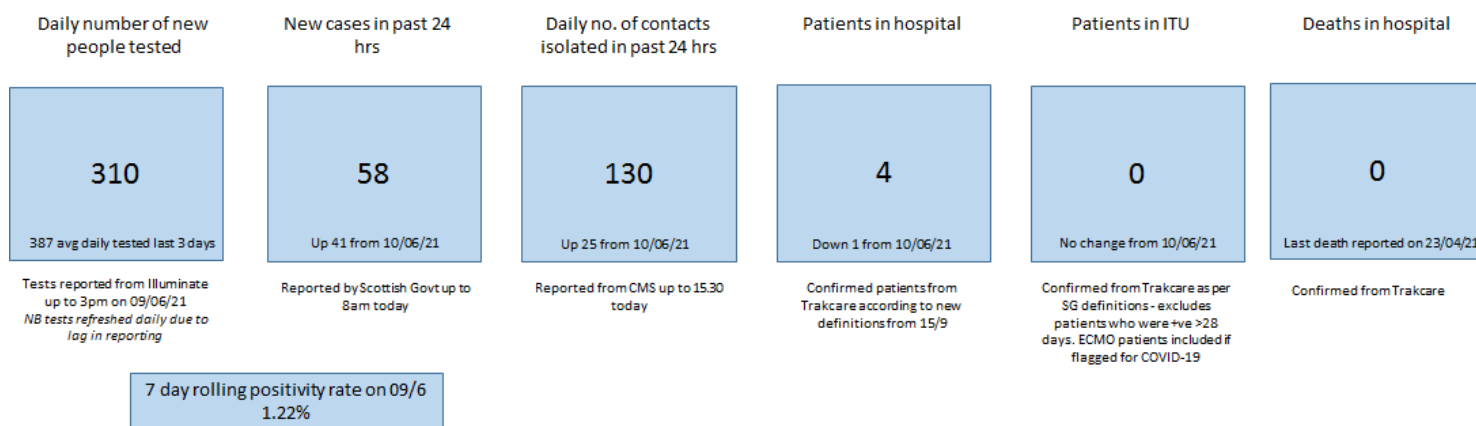


Here is the brief for Friday 11 June 2021.

COVID-19 case numbers – Dr Derek Cox In the past three weeks we have seen a rapid rise in case numbers in Scotland – now up to more than 1000 per day. This has been reflected over the past two weeks by a significant rise in case numbers in Grampian. From a low level of around 8 or 9 cases per day two weeks ago we are now seeing a sharp rise, which took us to 55 cases for yesterday (10 June). Cases are now doubling around every 6 days. Anyone who thinks this is going away is not appreciating that we are now at the beginning of a third wave. The Public Health and Health Protection teams are doing everything they can to limit the spread of the infection, but we also need the co-operation of the whole population if it is not once again to run out of control. You already all know what to do – limit personal mixing, continue with physical distancing and face coverings and don't travel unless it is absolutely essential. More than 80% of cases in Grampian are now the Delta variant, and it had to arrive from outside Grampian. If we can just delay the development of this wave to give us time to get more people vaccinated, we might just avoid the worst of it.

Grampian data Here is the daily local update, 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](#). PHS are aware of a change in the laboratory processing of specimens in the Glasgow Lighthouse lab on 10/06/21, which has resulted in slower processing. This change resulted in yesterday's reported figures being lower than otherwise might be expected by approximately 150-200 positive cases nationally.

Physical distancing in NHS Grampian Please note we are maintaining consistent physical distancing of 2 metres in all settings, including our catering outlets. All areas should be arranged accordingly, please do not move tables, chairs etc that have been set up to observe 2 metre physical distancing. Your ongoing co-operation with this is appreciated.

In-person hospital visiting As restrictions ease and more premises open, we are able to support hospital visiting by two, named, individuals. These named individuals must be the only visitors – we are not able to support frequent changes in who is able to visit. We absolutely understand the desire to visit people while in hospital – and the great benefit this brings to an unwell person – however, hospitals are

caring for very vulnerable people and their safety must be paramount. We are asking the general public to support us, by following the visiting guidance and having a conversation with the Senior Charge Nurse, before visiting. This conversation allows everyone to understand what can and cannot be accommodated, depending on the ward and the needs of all patients. We are also encouraging anyone designated as a hospital visitor to take regular Lateral Flow Device tests.

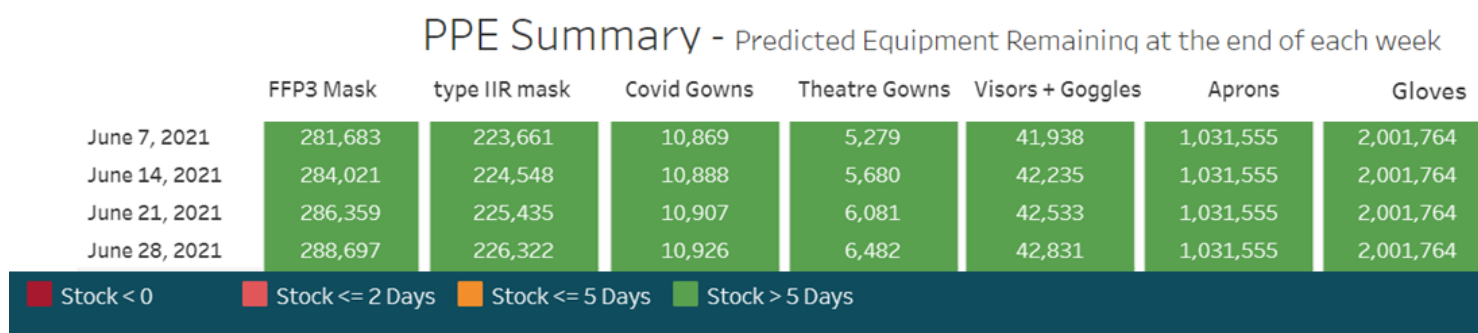
NHS Grampian achieve Carers Positive award As Carer’s Week draws to a close, we are pleased to say that NHS Grampian has been recognised with a Carer Positive award for supporting carers in the workplace. Carers Scotland, on behalf of the Scottish Government, is operating an award scheme to recognise employers in Scotland who support carers in their workforce. It aims to raise awareness of the growing numbers of people who juggle work and caring responsibilities. Director of People and Culture, Tom Power accepted the award, from Sue McLintock, of Carers Scotland during a virtual award ceremony on Wednesday.

Tom said: “I was delighted to receive the award on behalf of NHS Grampian. It truly signals our support for our workforce. As an organisation it is our responsibility to ensure we care for our staff, especially when they are faced with having to perform a carer’s role away from the workplace, which can be an incredibly stressful, emotional and exhausting situation. Anyone who finds themselves in that situation within NHS Grampian should speak with their line manager and HR and be assured we will be there to support them.”

As part of the application for the award, staff testimonials of their experiences working for the health board while acting as carers were included. One stated they had been “supported beyond expectation” by their line manager to act as a carer providing palliative care to a parent. Another said: “I find NHS Grampian’s attitude towards carers very supportive, which lessens the stress of having to care for an ill relative. For that I am eternally grateful.”

[Further information on how NHS Grampian can support carers in the workplace is available on the My Healthy Workplace website.](#)

PPE 3 week look ahead:



Orange award We have two sets of winners to tell you about this week! First up, Liz Wilson and Sylvia Burn, both part of the specialist team at Marywell Homeless Medical Practice, received their award on Tuesday. The very same day, Elsie Edwards from the Stroke Rehab Unit at Woodend Hospital was also presented with her Orange Award. Our warmest congratulations to all! If you know somebody (or somebodies) who is deserving of recognition for their efforts in health & social care, why not nominate them? [This can be done via the Orange Award online form](#) or by emailing gram.nmahporangeawards@nhs.scot

Dietitians Week 2021 We're at the end of Dietitian's Week and although we haven't been able to organise our usual activities, our social media dietitians (Ellen, Morven, Fabi and Pippa) have been busy tweeting, and posting on Facebook. Hopefully it's given you some idea of what dietitians do and who we are. One of the most exciting things has been the national Dietitian's bake-off challenge – we're delighted to say this was won by our own Hilary Rennie, Paediatric dietitian at RACH, with this show-stopping cake!

