

Here is the brief for Thursday 23 December 2021.

Clarification on Covid-19 isolation Following our previous advice, we have had a few of you get in touch asking for further clarifications.

Household contacts

If someone in your household has COVID-19 you must all isolate for 10 days. But healthcare and social care staff can still attend work if they meet the [specified “exemption” criteria](#) (i.e. three vaccine doses more than 14 days previously, asymptomatic, negative PCR). This is an exemption from household isolation **to attend work only**. Staff who are exempted **must complete isolation with their household when not at work**.

Non-household contacts

If you are a contact of a case of COVID-19 who **doesn't** live in your household, you must isolate for 10 days unless you meet [the criteria to shorten this](#) (i.e. two vaccine doses more than 14 days previously, asymptomatic, negative PCR). However, to also go back to work in a healthcare or social care setting within that 10-day period, you **must** have had your booster too (i.e. three vaccine doses more than 14 days previously, asymptomatic, negative PCR).

LFD Testing LFD kits available from pharmacies are for members of the public only. Health and social care staff should join the staff LFD testing programme to receive their kits. If you have not already done so, you can [register, just click here and complete the appropriate form](#).

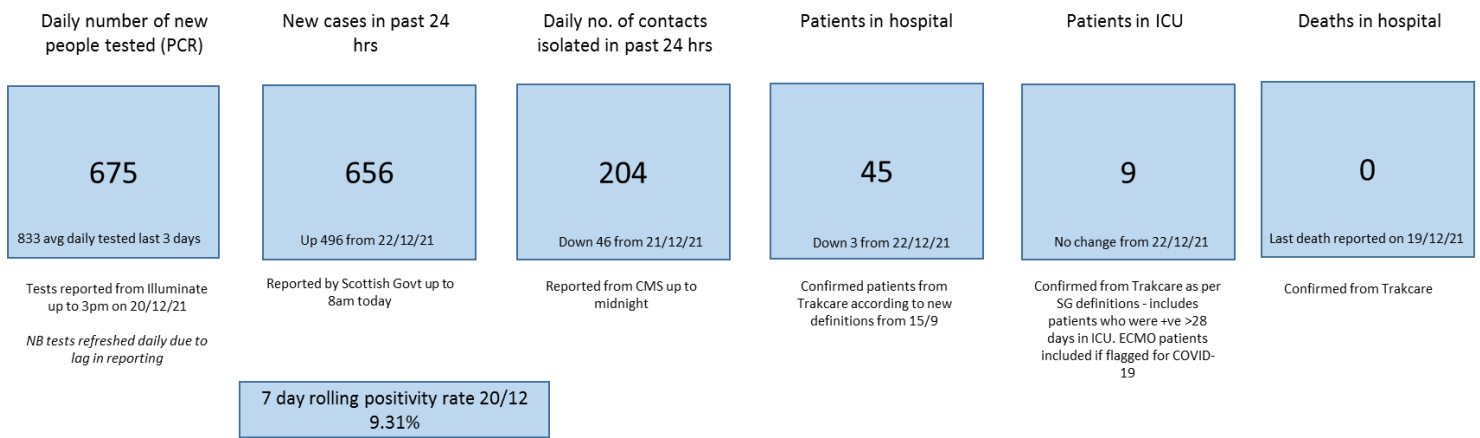
Pharmacies may refuse to dispense LFD kits to health and social care staff.

If you need additional kits to keep up with increased testing, these are available – but please bear in mind they are for staff only. Relatives/other household members who don't work in health & social care should order kits on the UK Government website or collect from a participating pharmacy.

If you're not sure where your test pick up point is, please email gram.staffcovidtestingservicemanagers@nhs.scot

Acute Sector staff can collect from the ARI Boardroom (next to the General Office) Monday to Friday, between 10am and 2pm. Remember, if you experience the classic COVID-19 symptoms, do not use a Lateral Flow Device. Book a PCR test, using the staff testing programme request form.

Grampian data The local update for today (and across the weekend), including the 7-day rolling positivity rate, is shown below. 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](#).

Patient catering festive menu amendments Due to ongoing shortages from our suppliers on some product lines we will not be able to provide the vegetarian choices as described on our festive menus to the majority of patient areas in Grampian (Foresterhill site is not affected). We have found alternatives that will be as similar to the missing menu item as we can source. Wards affected will receive notification from your local kitchens on the replacement vegetarian options. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Winter service arrangements for Corporate Graphic Design. The CGD department closes from 24 December and fully reopens on 10 January 2022. A reduced team will be available on the 5,6,7 January but please be aware this limited resource will be focussed on organisational priorities only. With a high volume of jobs already received for the first quarter of 2022, if you have a graphic requirement for a project, please notify CGD as soon as possible.

Tune of the day The IPCT have requested [Feliz Navidad](#) as today's tune - Technical Lead Infection Prevention & Control Nurse Leighanne Bruce told us it's a "bit oh toe tapping happy for xmas eve eve". Enjoy, and get those toes tapping.

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.