

Daily update (14 December 2021, 5,25pm)

Topics in this Core Brief:

- Provision of support to vaccination programme
- Update following First Minister's announcement

Provision of support to vaccination programme

With the rise in cases and the concerns over the threat of the Omicron variant, we need everyone eligible to get their booster vaccination by the end of December. To deliver this, our vaccination teams will need to increase their activity by 200% over the next two and a half weeks.

We recognise how challenging this is and we are working hard to secure any and all sources of additional staffing and support possible to vaccination teams during this period of acceleration, including through mutual aid from Special Health Boards.

We are also appealing to professionals across our health and social services at this time to support this acceleration of the programme.

Any offer of help, whether a one-off shift, weekend shifts or a regular commitment would make a huge difference so please consider if you – or someone you know – could join this incredible national effort to get even more people vaccinated by the end of December.

Given the urgent need to upscale our efforts, we require anyone who is vaccinating to have already completed their vaccination/flu training.

In order to administer vaccinations you need to be part of our vaccination bank team. In line with the Terms and Conditions for this, you will receive your substantive NHSGGC rate of pay to do this. However, we need you to register either through:

Band 5 – for Registered staff members: https://apply.jobs.scot.nhs.uk/displayjob.aspx?jobid=78818

Band 3 – for Unregistered staff members. https://apply.jobs.scot.nhs.uk/displayjob.aspx?jobid=78813

If you are eligible and can help out in any way, please follow the links above to join the vaccination team.

Thank you for any help you can provide.

Update following First Minister's announcement

In response to the threat posed by the new Omicron variant, First Minister Nicola Sturgeon has today issued strong guidance to people to limit their social contacts to three households in the run-up to Christmas as far as possible.

This will be disappointing for many colleagues who have been working so hard throughout the year, but we are urging you to heed this guidance over the festive period.

As we have seen, work-based social gatherings in other Health Boards have led to significant numbers of staff having to self-isolate when a member or members of the team test positive. We are aware of instances where a single case of the Omicron variant has led to a number of Health and Social Care staff self-isolating with a severe impact on service delivery and other staff.

In view of the latest guidance from the Scottish Government, we are also asking staff to remember the following advice:

- 1. No social event/in person gathering should take place on NHS property at the current time
- 2. Staff that are able to work from home should continue to do so
- 3. Meetings should take place virtually unless exceptional circumstances exist for in person meetings.

All staff are encouraged to increase their usage of lateral flow tests ideally daily. Please remember to follow the appropriate protections including physical distancing, face covering and good hand hygiene guidance.



Please keep up-to-date with the latest guidance on our dedicated web pages at: www.nhsggc.org.uk/covid19. If you have any questions about the current situation please check the FAQs first. If you have any further questions, please email: HR.Support@ggc.scot.nhs.uk.

***Staff are reminded to make sure their personal contact details are up to date on eESS.