

Core brief

**Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive
(17 March 2023, 11.00am)**

Unfortunately, this week, we have seen a significant increase in the number of patients being treated for COVID across NHSGGC. We currently have 386 patients who have been diagnosed in the past 28 days, which is a rise of over 100 people in the past seven days. Likewise, in our local communities, we have seen an increase in the number of people who are affected by COVID, with the most recent figures showing that one in 40 people in Scotland have the virus, up from one in 45 previously.

This worsening situation has impacted on our hospital flow, as we continue to experience temporary ward closures in observation of our stringent infection prevention and control procedures. In turn this is bringing additional challenge to our ED performance. I would like to thank all staff who continue to work exceptionally hard to treat and care for our patients as well as provide support to your colleagues.

Earlier this week, we received two Scottish Government Ministers to our sites to enable them to meet with our staff and have first-hand experience of our services. On Monday, I was pleased to welcome the Minister for Public Health, Women's Health and Sport, Maree Todd MSP, to the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, where she spent some time at our Renal Transplant and Vascular Access Unit. Ms Todd met with members of our team and one of our patients who has undergone a successful kidney transplant.

Colleagues also welcomed the Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care, Kevin Stewart MSP, to meet with our CAMHS team and service users at our Skye House facility at Stobhill Hospital. Mr Stewart spent some time at our therapy hub to experience the facilities available, while learning more about the services we deliver and the vital role our team play to provide care and support to young people experiencing mental health conditions, including eating disorders and self-harm. I would like to thank all staff who were involved in these important visits.

This week, we marked World Delirium Day across NHSGGC, to help raise awareness about delirium and the impact it can have on patients and their loved ones. I was encouraged to see all of the engagement which took place across our

sites and the involvement of so many of our staff to raise awareness of this condition. As you will be aware, delirium is often triggered by physical health conditions and it causes a rapid change in someone's thinking and alertness level, which can cause confusion, a change in personality and even hallucinations. While delirium can affect people of all ages, it is more prominent in older age groups, and in people who experience significant ill health and have underlying health or memory problems. This is why it is so important that we take the time to recognise and raise awareness about the condition, particularly in terms of early recognition, and highlight the best practice to appropriately manage the condition across all of our healthcare settings.



Following our promotion of national No Smoking Day last week, I wanted to share some patient feedback that we received about the “Quit Your Way” service and team. Our service user writes; “I've had the privilege and found myself in the fortunate position of being eligible for the "quit your way" support service to help quit smoking. The support I've received has been tremendous and un-intrusive, which I personally think helped me. The staff are spot on with their approach and my family, friends and I can't thank them enough. I've just received my 12 week certificate today I'm over the moon.” This is great feedback, which shows the importance of the service to its users and I would like to thank the team for your continued commitment to such an important health improvement intervention.

**It is important to share Core Brief with colleagues who do not have access to a computer.
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