

Core brief

Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive (9 December 2022, 2pm)

As this week's cold snap takes hold in communities across Scotland, our teams continue to face significant pressure on services brought about as a result of the usual winter issues we face year on year along with the ongoing impact of COVID. As staff will be aware, we are taking clear action to ease the flow through of patients from arrival at our front doors all the way through to discharge. Our new Home for Lunch Campaign launched this week and I am hopeful that it will help to encourage families to support their loved ones to return home when they are ready, rather than having to wait longer than necessary.

I am also very aware of the issues we are dealing with in relation to Norovirus and ward closures at some of our hospitals. We have, on some sites, began once again, to ramp up our requests for patients and visitors to wear face coverings and ensure they are practicing good hand hygiene when coming inside our acute sites so that we can maintain appropriate infection control levels and reduce transmission of viruses to our patients. I would like to thank all staff who are supporting this very important effort.

As staff will be aware yesterday marked the two-year anniversary of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout in Scotland. Since December 2020, our teams of vaccinators have administered in excess of three million doses of COVID vaccine, 370,889 of which have been given since September this year. I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in the vaccination programme since its inception, you have all done a valiant and hugely important job. To that end, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Professor Graham Ellis has delivered a [message](#) thanking all vaccinators, support staff and those who have been vaccinated for their contribution to the programme. This important anniversary also serves as a reminder to all staff, who may not yet be up to date with their booster, to please come forward in the coming weeks to be vaccinated.

I'm really pleased to share with staff that we received a letter from the Director of Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation at NHS Blood and Transplant this week to thank our teams for their continued support and quality of care they have shown with organ donation. Organ donation and transplantation is vitally important to people right across Scotland, and in NHSGGC alone, from 15 authorised donors, we facilitated 14 actual solid organ donors, resulting in 40 patients receiving a transplant between April and September this year. Organ donation and transplantation is so important to so many people and I would like to thank our staff who work as advocates for donation, those who support the people waiting on the transplant list and our teams who enable the transplants to happen for their tremendous, life-saving work.

Tomorrow marks the 75th Anniversary of the Global Declaration of Human Rights. As a Board we advocate a human rights based approach to the treatment and care we provide. We have mainstreamed human rights into how we operate as an organisation to ensure that our services are sensitive to inequality and meet the needs of our diverse communities across NHSGGC. If you wish to find out more information please visit our [website](#).

This week, our patient feedback is about the surgery team at the GRI. Our patient writes: "I just wanted to feedback on the absolutely fantastic care I received recently at GRI Theatres when I went for recent surgery.

Alyson, Andrea and the health care support workers team in reception were friendly, welcoming and put me at ease. They reassured and supported me during my pre-theatre treatment. It's wonderful how reassuring the hold of a hand can be. Then to the Ortho theatre team, the entire team was fantastic. Special shout out to Connor and Rachael, you kept me calm, had wonderful chat and helped my operation pass quickly. Then to theatre recovery, the friendly compassion continued. This wonderful team of people made an nerve wracking operation experience much better. Thank you." Well done to the entire team, this is a great example of a successful patient centred approach to treatment and care. Thank you for taking care of this patient so well.

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