

Core brief

Daily update
(19 July 2021, 1.45pm)

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Hospital visiting arrangements

From today **Monday 19 July** all hospitals in NHSGGC will move to **level one visiting** described in the national COVID-19 [Visiting Guidance for Hospitals in Scotland](#). This is a precautionary approach to help maintain the safety of patients, family visiting and staff whilst COVID-19 infections remain high in our communities. Hospital visiting will be closely monitored to assess when we can safely return to visiting arrangements aligned to level zero of the national guidance.

From today this means where possible all patients will be expected to benefit from support from **at least two people** from the same household at the same time. If not from the same household and physical distancing cannot be maintained, visits can take place separately.

For all high risk patients a consultant led multi-disciplinary team (MDT), individual risk assessment is advised to aid decision making to determine whether visits can be safely supported or not. Patients advised against receiving a visitor must be provided with an explanation and this should be reviewed as the patient's condition changes. The decision and rationale should be documented in the patients' record.

Public messaging continues to re-enforce the **FACTS guidance** to request people visiting to comply with wearing face coverings/masks, avoid congregating in public areas, cleaning hands with hand gel provided, maintaining social distancing measures and the need to self-isolate and not visit if they have any COVID-19 symptoms.

The **Trace and Protect** template should be completed with visitor details at each visit to assist Test and Protect colleagues should there be a need to contact them. Discussions are ongoing to find a solution to reduce this administrative burden.

All visitors should be advised **not to visit** if they are feeling unwell or have any symptoms of COVID-19.

When family members arrange to visit, **voluntary Lateral Flow Testing** should be strongly recommended as a valuable way to promote safety. Information on how to order Lateral Flow Tests is on the [Scottish Government's website](#) or tests can be collected from COVID testing centres in the afternoon or early evening or the [asymptomatic test facilities](#) across NHSGGC.

It is important to note that Lateral Flow Testing for visitors is **not** mandatory and wards are not able to insist that visitors undergo a test before visiting. Not wishing or not being able to test will not be an obstacle to a visit. This forms part of a suite of measures to mitigate the risk of COVID 19 transmission.

The [Hospital Visiting Webpage](#) has been updated with current guidance. The updated Hospital Visiting Toolkit and Hospital Visiting Information Leaflet can be found [here](#).

Social Distancing Reminder

Restrictions remain in place across all health and social care premises, therefore please continue to keep patients and staff safe by maintaining two metres social distancing, wearing face coverings and maintaining good hand hygiene. In addition, please keep windows open where possible.

We would like to thank staff for their continual support in adhering to social distancing measures, especially in light that restrictions have been eased for other businesses.

eHealth - eHelp Portal

The eHealth Self-Service Portal is your new one-stop-shop to explore eHealth resources for self-help and raise Tickets (Incidents and Requests) online without the need to phone the IT Service Desk. From this portal, you can view and update tickets you have raised to eHealth, view system outages or planned maintenance.

You are just two steps away from accessing the eHealth – eHelp portal:

1. Complete the MFA (multi-factor authentication) by [going here](#).
2. Access the eHealth Portal - Simply open your web browser (Microsoft Edge), then click on NHSGGC favourites, then 'eHELP', or go to [eHelp](#).

Lateral Flow Tests - Available to all staff working on site

Speak to your line manager about where to collect your test kit, then:

Register
your kit

Test
twice per week

Record
your results

Keep your colleagues and patients safe from COVID-19
Help stop the spread!

Visit: www.nhsggc.org.uk/lfid-stafftesting

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: staff.covid19@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

Staff are reminded to make sure their [personal contact details are up to date on eESS](#).

**It is important to share Core Brief with colleagues who do not have access to a computer.
A full archive of printable PDFs are available on [StaffNet](#)**