Issue 75 |29th April 2022

Elected Members Update

for local MPs, MSPs and
Councillors

This regular update is part of our on-going commitment to keep you informed of the latest developments at NHS Fife that may be of interest to you and your constituents. We would also encourage you to regularly visit and refer your constituents for the latest news and updates from NHS Fife on our [**website**](http://www.nhsfife.org): or follow us on our social media channels -[**Twitter**](http://www.twitter.com/nhsfife)**,**[**Facebook**](http://www.facebook.com/nhsfife)**,**[**Instagram**](http://www.instagram.com/nhsfife)**.**

**Covid vaccination**

**Local vaccination overview**

This week our vaccination expanded to incorporate vaccination of the local immunosuppressed population. Vaccination of people over the age of 75 remains ongoing, as does the programme to visit the homes of those who are classified as housebound and unable to attend a community clinic.

**Vaccination of refugees and asylum seekers**

Our vaccination teams are working hard to try and make the vaccine as accessible to all groups living in Fife– including refugees and asylum seekers. Importantly, those coming forward are not required to prove their residence or their immigration status. Neither do people have to be able to provide a CHI number or be registered with a GP.

**Drop-in clinics and appointments**

A mixture of both dedicated children’s drop-in clinics and regular drop-in clinics are being held this weekend. More information on mobile clinics and drop-in sessions can be found [here](http://www.nhsfife.org/dropin). We also continue to encourage anyone eligible for any dose of the vaccine to book their appointment via the [online booking portal](https://vacs.nhs.scot/csp) (people who need to recover their username can do so [here](https://vacs.nhs.scot/csp?id=recover_username)) or by calling 0800 030 8013.

**Test & Protect**

**Scottish Government Test and Protect Transition Plan**

Scottish Government have published the transition plan for Test and Protect. The plan outlines the transition from population-wide testing to a more targeted approach. It is available to view [here](https://www.gov.scot/publications/test-protect-transition-plan/).

**Changes to Asymptomatic Testing**

In line with the Test and Protect transition plan most people without symptoms no longer must test, unless they are:

* a fully vaccinated close contact of a confirmed case
* visiting a care home or hospital
* a positive case who is self-isolating and is eligible to end self-isolation early (take an LFD test from day six as advised in guidance for ending self-isolation early
* an unpaid carer
* eligible for coronavirus treatments

Individuals in these identified groups should take an LFD test and will be able to order a home testing kit [here](https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/infections-and-poisoning/coronavirus-covid-19/test-and-protect/coronavirus-covid-19-testing/) or by calling 119.

**Symptomatic Testing**

Anyone who is symptomatic should continue to get tested until the end of April. PCR testing is currently available from UK Government sites, Community Testing sites and to order online. Further information on testing can be found [here](https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/infections-and-poisoning/coronavirus-covid-19/test-and-protect/coronavirus-covid-19-testing/).

**Other news**

**Importance of continued LFD testing for those visiting hospital**

We have been using our social media channels to remind people of the continued need to lateral flow test before visiting our hospitals. Whilst most people no longer need to test when they do not have Covid symptoms, those visiting hospitals are still encouraged to do so ahead of their visit. Specific groups of people are still able to order free LFD tests. This list - which includes those visiting hospitals - can be found [here](http://www.nhsinform.scot/covid-19-testing). Free LFD tests can be ordered online [here](http://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests) or by calling call 119.

**Holiday Monday pharmacy opening times**

Local pharmacy opening arrangements for the upcoming public holiday (Monday 2nd May) can be found [here](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nhsfife.org%2Fpharmacyopeningtimes%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR1Kg52Purft9yaYNRe3YeSDJkoxJIxdBGZjpzPyJz5o65vksVLobcAo-9s&h=AT2mX3_qpVtemxSTejdtFcQwcfLf9-_TF9pUNE0wQ6Aot0qkZ4xV4SJeiM8J0FsLuwDLnxKxam9nJnoz29i7yYGAMIEyRA8KF1EuHTjkgE6KiPyQijMgUUMslABCMGA_0A&__tn__=H-R&c%5b0%5d=AT3WlMMuI5Oqe167g9gt0Q8i4mbzAWBv169CMp42NL4R7Xx8BJeSaAQ2_OuTxHYVVhGDPx3WjtNpOThsPD4GwV4I6pMsQ9oK1o-YfKZmN06zxxukOBHMFZYDvF8vgqCc0ayBqq9OYc9K_IovqBjew2L5JQzDAi1xLqoYZXyXggfm9w).

**Hospital visiting**

The current hospital visiting arrangements in Fife are that patients can receive at least one visitor per day. This position remains under regular review and the latest provisions can be found [here](https://www.nhsfife.org/visiting/).

We have used our social media platforms to remind those who are visiting patients in our hospitals to ensure they are up to date with the latest arrangements for that ward by [calling in advance.](https://fife.link/97e8)

Sharing our messages

We appreciate the support of elected members in sharing our health messages and note that you have already been engaging with the topics we have suggested on social media - we are grateful for your support.

Help us to help you keep your constituents informed

NHS Fife would ask our elective representatives to share our regular updates and guidance via their own channels of communications with their constituents. By supporting us you can help to ensure that we can reach as many people as possible across Fife in a timely manner.

Accessible information and translation

NHS Fife continues to provide interpreting and translation services for patients despite there being no face-to-face interpretation currently. These assets and further information can be found [here](https://coronavirus.nhsfife.org/accessible-informationtranslation/).

Additional vaccination information/stats

You can find out about the numbers of people in Scotland who are vaccinated along with data about case numbers, and hospitalisations by accessing the Scottish Government [Daily Update](https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-daily-data-for-scotland/) or by visiting Public Health Scotland’s [Daily Dashboard](https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/phs.covid.19/viz/COVID-19DailyDashboard_15960160643010/Overview)

All Information correct at time of publishing. Issued by:

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