

Core brief

Daily update
(1 October 2020, 5.45pm)

Topics in this Core Brief:

- Remember to register for your flu vaccination
- Protective Personal Equipment (PPE)
- Updated COVID-19 FAQs
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Remember to register for your flu vaccination

If you haven't yet registered for your flu vaccination, there is no better time than now! A big thank you to everyone who have already registered – over 4000 of you. So, if you haven't registered yet, please do so to ensure you are vaccinated this year.

To take into account COVID-19 guidelines, in particular social distancing, the way that we will be vaccinating staff has changed this year.

There will be two routes:

- **Staff working in clinical areas**
Staff who work in clinical areas, including ward clerks, should get their vaccination via peer vaccination. Staff should fill in the [registration form](#) **BEFORE being vaccinated**. This will enable us to plan effectively to ensure that vaccine can be ordered. (If you are **not working on the GGC network** please use [this link to the registration form](#).)
- **Staff who work in non-clinical areas**
Staff who are non-clinical (including staff in health records, IT, finance, laundry, decontamination unit, telecommunications), estates and facilities and laboratory staff will be vaccinated by Occupational Health using an appointments only service. If you are part of this group, you can find out more information on how you can get your vaccination by clicking [here](#).

Please note that Occupational Health will NOT be operating a drop-in service, so please **register in advance to ensure you get your vaccination and bring your completed health questionnaire**.

Getting your flu vaccination is the single most effective way of preventing flu. The vaccine doesn't give you flu and in fact will protect you for up to 12 months, so our message to staff is simple: let's do our bit and take this easy but important step to protect ourselves, our patients and our families this winter.

If you are unsure of which category you fall into, please speak with your line manager.

For more information on the Staff Flu Vaccination Programme, visit: www.nhsqgc.org.uk/staffflu



Protective Personal Equipment (PPE)

FFP3 3M 8833 Mask

- The batch of masks with a use by date of June 2020 have now been revalidated and approved for use.
- The batch of masks with a use by date of 2025. This is a new batch of masks which have recently been manufactured by 3M. Unfortunately 3M have amended the position of the staple which attaches the strap to the mask, stopping the straps from being tightened. Therefore if, as part of your face fitting, you are required to pull the straps to tighten the mask to ensure a fit, this batch should not be used by you. We have contacted all PPE Leads on site who have ensured there is an alternative mask (or the June 2020 batch of masks) on site should you require this.

DSBJ Fluid Resistant Mask

- Last month, National Procurement launched an investigation into some complaints which had been raised by some Boards concerning issues with these masks. This investigation has now concluded and NP have advised that this mask is still valid to use.

As with all PPE, please ensure you follow the donning and doffing process advised by Infection Control and Health and Safety.

Updated COVID-19 FAQs

The Scottish Government has introduced a single national guidance document on coronavirus that directs staff to verified sources of advice. This will inform a standard approach to occupational health, for application across NHS Scotland. You can see this here:

<https://www.staffgovernance.scot.nhs.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/guidance/> (last updated 28 July 2020).

We will update [FAQs](#) as and when this document is updated, as well as with other generic FAQs.



Quitober

If you are a smoker and thinking of stopping smoking then October could be the month to give it a go!

QUIT YOUR WAY
with our support

As part of a promotional give back to NHS and Health and Social care staff, our NHSGGC Quit Your Way Stop Smoking Services have been given a limited number of access codes providing one month free access to the 5-star reviewed stop smoking app, smokefreeapp.com

If you're thinking about stopping smoking then contact us now by phone **0800 916 8858** or email: Quityourway.nhs@ggc.scot.nhs.uk and let us know that you're interested in stopping smoking as part of our staff **Quitober** promotion.

One of our advisors will chat to you about the support we can provide including free access to NRT or Champix (if suitable) and will give you a unique one time access code for one month's free access to the full version of the Smoke Free app. To find out more about the app [click here](#).

Please keep up-to-date with the latest guidance on our dedicated web pages at: www.nhs.gov.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](#)