

Core Brief



Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive

(17 January 2025, 09:00am)

Dear Colleagues,

I'd like to start by sharing some positive news regarding flu admissions. Following a large spike, we've observed a significant reduction in recent days. This will be welcome news for many staff who have worked tirelessly, managing the additional pressures caused by the unusually high surge in numbers this year.

Teams across NHSGGC have performed exceptionally well in responding to this challenge, and I extend my thanks to everyone involved. We will continue to monitor the situation closely and remind staff that you can still receive your flu vaccine at one of our drop-in clinics.

I'm also delighted to announce that this year's annual Excellence Awards are now open for entries. This is a fantastic opportunity for staff to recognise colleagues who excel in their roles – whether by delivering outstanding patient care, implementing or designing innovative ways of working, or through volunteering. You can nominate an individual or a team, and full details, including the nomination form, are available on our website. This year's closing date for entries is Wednesday, 19 February. Best of luck to everyone!

In other positive news, NHSGGC has become the first Scottish health board to be formally recognised as a centre of excellence for its work on antimicrobial stewardship and tackling the threat of antibiotic resistance. This is a significant accolade in such a critical area of healthcare. My congratulations go to Professor Andrew Seaton, who leads our Antimicrobial Stewardship Team (AMT), and to the rest of the team involved in this work, which continues to advance research and influence practices around antibiotic resistance.

As we know, a healthcare approach that places the patient at the centre of all decisions is fundamental to NHSGGC. Known as Realistic Medicine (RM), this approach emphasises shared decision-making, personalised care, and reducing waste. On 4 March, our RM team will be hosting the NHS Kind and Careful Event to support and inform staff about the benefits of Realistic Medicine and quality improvement. I encourage anyone interested in learning more about how to apply Realistic Medicine to their care to attend. You can register your interest here.

I'd also like to remind all relevant staff to ensure they complete the appropriate Sharps training at their earliest convenience. This is important not only for compliance but also for broader staff and patient safety. Currently, our compliance rates are lower than we would like. Please access the training via your LearnPro account, where you can also complete any other mandatory training. Additionally, a Sharps Self-Audit is available on SharePoint for managers to conduct as part of a proactive approach to improving compliance. The self-audit can be accessed here.

Finally, we have received some great feedback from a patient's family. I would like to extend my gratitude to the entire team at the QEUH involved in this patient's care – from Resus to the stroke unit and those on Ward 62. Well done, everyone.

"My mum had a stroke just before Christmas. The ambulance service staff were incredibly helpful, and the ambulance arrived in 8 minutes. Mum was taken straight to Resus and seen immediately by the stroke team. She was admitted to the acute stroke unit within approximately three hours of arrival.

"We couldn't have asked for better care. The doctors, nurses, and therapists on Ward 62 were so kind and helpful. At such a stressful time, it was such a relief to know she was in the best place with a specialist stroke team looking after her."

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