Daily update
(23 July 2020, 4.20pm)

Topics in this Core Brief:
- Life in the Frontline
- Encouraging preliminary results for Oxford trial

Life in the Frontline

Dr Martin Perry, Consultant Physician, based at the Vale of Leven talks about his pride in the role the Vale has played in tackling COVID-19 and how being part of a smaller team in a close knit community has brought out the best in people.

Encouraging preliminary results for Oxford trial

NHSGGC has been supporting the University of Oxford’s COVID-19 vaccine trial in health and care staff.

The results of the Phase I/II trial were published this week in the scientific journal, The Lancet, and indicate no early safety concerns and a strong immune response in both parts of the immune system.

The vaccine provoked a T cell response within 14 days of vaccination (white blood cells that can attack cells infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus), and an antibody response within 28 days (antibodies are able to neutralise the virus so that it cannot infect cells when initially contracted).

The next step in studying the vaccine is to confirm that it can effectively protect against SARS-CoV-2 infection. The potential vaccine entered later stage (Phase III) clinical trials in May to study safety and efficacy in healthy volunteers aged 18 to 55 years, across 19 trial sites in the UK including GGC. The University of Oxford is also working with research partners at a number of clinical trial sites around the world as part of this late stage trial.

We are proud to have had the opportunity to take part in this important trial, and await the result of the ongoing phase III trial. We are grateful to all of our healthcare workers who are taking part in the Oxford Vaccine Study local investigators, Clinical Research Facility team, pharmacy and the wider research team.

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.