

CCU Staff Responding to MET & Call for Help during COVID-19 period – Q&A



Western Health

COVID - 19

Be Safe -- Be Smart -- Be Kind

Q& A for now ...

Under normal circumstances if the ICU liaison believes a patient is unwell enough during a MET they would normally escalate to the ICU registrar in order to get the patient reviewed.

Is this going to be the same when the CCU staff are responding to MET during the COVID-19 period?

NO, once we reach the point when CCU need to take over the MET Response during the COVID 19 period the ICU Registrar may not be available. Please escalate to the Home Unit Registrar, Medical Registrar or Consultant. They can refer to ICU directly as required.

If you still feel the patient is deteriorating escalate to a Code blue.

Do we enter the MET call data into Riskman?

NO, all you need to do is print out the completed Rapid Response form from the EMR and place a bradma on it and place it in the same folder you put the code blue datasheets (there will be a section made specifically made for the MET / Call for Help data).

If you can't print the rapid response form from the EMR place a bradma and complete the details on the MET LOG form which will also be kept in the code blue data folders.

Kylie will collect the data forms and arrange for data entry to be completed.

Will we be Supernumerary on the roster ?

Yes, when the time comes for the CCU team to take over MET the NUM or NIC will submit x1 RN vacancy per shift as the "CCU MET call responder supernumerary".

There are normally 2 ICU liaison nurses for MET calls at Sunshine during the day. Will this be a one person job for the CCU RN or will this be kept as two nurses doing MET call response for the two buildings on the Sunshine Precinct?

Yes, only one CCU RN will be rostered to respond to MET calls for the Sunshine Precinct

What do I take to a MET call response?

You will need to take the ICU liaison pager & phone when you take over the MET response so you can be notified of MET calls (they are also announced overhead 24/7). If you need to call someone for help. No other specific equipment is needed.

Who is in charge of the MET call response?

The home medical team are the Medical lead at MET (The Registrar, HMO or above – **NOT AN INTERN**).

If there is only a HMO present and further escalation is required, escalate to the Home team Registrar or Consultant in the first instance. (Of course you feel it needs to be a code blue, please activate one)

Are METs calls called overhead ?

Yes, all MET calls are announced overhead 24/7 at all sites.

Will we be responding to Call for Help ?

Yes, if this occurs do a clinical assessment of the patient. If it's acute clinical deterioration call a MET or a Code Blue. If the call is in regard to Complaints, communication or delays to care (theatre or a procedure being late or cancelled), or anything other than clinical deterioration hand this over to the NUM or NIC.

Document on Rapid response form and print (the same as for a MET). Tick Call for Help in the primary reason for call section