



The Overall Plan

- Western Health is prepared for a surge in demand for services related to the presence of COVID-19 in the community.
- An organisation-wide surge plan has been developed that details how each area will respond to different levels of demand surge.
- The plan is comprehensive and it, includes the management of facilities, planning and actions to uplift the workforce and the implementation of guidelines that inform and support staff during the COVID Pandemic response. These guidelines can be accessed via the COVID microsite: <https://coronavirus.wh.org.au/>



The Emergency Medicine Plan:

Each site has developed a plan to meet the demand surge for COVID. The activation of each surge is linked to a combination of access demand and patient acuity triggers.

Footscray Hospital

Surge 1:

- Relocate the Emergency Observation Unit to Level 3 – EOU, renamed 3A – Short Stay Unit
- Create High Risk and Low Risk COVID zones

Surge 2

- Open an additional ten clinical spaces across the SSU and Emergency Department.

Surge 3

- Open an additional ten clinical spaces across the SSU and Emergency Department.

Sunshine Hospital

Surge 1:

- Relocate the Emergency Observation Unit to Level 1 – EOU, renamed 1B – Short Stay Unit
- Create High Risk and Low Risk COVID zones.

Surge 2

- Open an additional seventeen clinical spaces across the SSU and Emergency Department.

Surge 3

- Open an additional thirteen clinical spaces across the SSU and Emergency Department.

Williamstown Hospital

Surge 1:

- Designated High Risk and Low Risk COVID clinical spaces.
- Alter the protocols and location for intubating patients.



Workforce Planning

The following workforce preparations are taking place in Emergency Medicine:

Nursing:

- Upskilling of Nursing with two plus years of registration to undertake Triage responsibilities in an emergency.
- Integration and Training, of Ward, Bank and Pool Nurses to Emergency Nursing. To create workforce flexibility in meeting a demand surge.

Medical:

- Orientation of Hospital Medical Officers from other Units to the Short Stay Unit and the clinical model of care.



Information is important:

All information is important, please inform yourself of the changes in Emergency Medicine section of the microsite:

<https://coronavirus.wh.org.au/clinical-guidelines/emergency-medicine/>