

**GUIDANCE
ICU SURGE PROTOCOL**



DOC ID HHCMPA72020 v1

Effective Date: 03.24.2020

Page 1 of 2

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| Purpose | This plan is designed to streamline the inter-facility transfer process for patients in response to a surge. |
| Scope | NYC Health and Hospitals |
| Requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ICU Surge Protocol may only be authorized by an ICU attending. |
| Policies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying six patients, according to the emergency pathway as defined in this protocol, does not guarantee that all six will be transferred. |
| Responsibilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICU Directors will convene daily to review system-wide ICU capacity and address transfer needs. Directors will review overnight activations of this protocol to provide quality control on appropriateness of activation and triage decisions. |
| Definitions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Surge Hospital</u>: A hospital that recognizes a surge that stresses their capacity to deliver critical care, as determined by an ICU attending. <u>Receiving Hospital</u>: A hospital that accepts patient transfers according to this protocol. |
| Process | <p><u>Daily Pathway</u>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> ICU Directors convene daily at noon to review capacity across ICUs and reach consensus on appropriate transfers. Receiving Hospitals notify hospital leadership of plan to accept patients. Surge Hospital calls Direct Call and requests activation of the ICU Surge Protocol, noting that Receiving Hospital is already identified. Direct Call facilitates a call between Surge Hospital and Receiving Hospital to provide clinical sign-out. Direct Call arranges transport, pending sign-out. <p><u>Emergency Pathway</u>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Surge Hospital recognizes a surge that stresses their capacity to deliver critical care. Surge Hospital identifies 6 patients that could be transferred to another ICU. Surge Hospital calls Direct Call and requests activation of the ICU Surge Protocol. Request must be made by an ICU attending. Direct Call reviews H+H ICU Dashboard to identify hospitals that are best equipped to receive transfers based on ICU bed occupancy rate and geographic proximity to Surge Hospital. Direct Call facilitates calls between Surge Hospital and potential Receiving Hospitals one-by-one. Direct Call arranges transport, pending acceptance and sign-out. If patients are not accepted, Direct Call identifies the next eligible Receiving Hospital based on occupancy rate. |

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Page 2 of 2

Machelle Allen, MD *System Chief Medical Officer* *20 Mar. 2020*

Approved

by:

Name/Signature

Title

Date

Reviewed and Readopted Without Change

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