

Mr Gerard Hayes
Secretary
Health Services Union
Locked Bag 3
Australia Square NSW 1245

By email: secretary@hsu.asn.au

POWH Emergency Department Assessment Unit (EDAU)

Dear Mr Hayes

Further to our letter on 20 June 2024, I am writing to advise the outcome of the consultation sessions and the anonymous survey results in relation to the Prince of Wales Hospital Emergency Department Assessment unit (EDAU)

We received a large number of responses and have reviewed the feedback provided.

The themes from feedback received are:

- Design of the staff station
 - Staff want a barrier high enough so aggressive patients cannot access the staff station by climbing on a chair or staff counter or climbing over the barrier.
 - Full enclosure with barrier panel up to the ceiling at the staff station with lockable safety egress
- Staff raised concerns about the position of the consumable trolley.
- Patient cohort – Staff asked questions on the type of patients who will be admitted to EDAU.
- Staff raised concerns about the position of EDAU within ED and the duress response times/code black response process in the event of a patient being aggressive.
- Staff queried about the HASA shift times.

Following consultation with Mr John Whatman, Assistant State Inspector, SafeWork NSW, SESLHD will complete an EDAU Staff Station risk assessment.

The risk assessment will be led by the Health Safety & Wellbeing team in conjunction with key workers from Emergency Department, Mental Health Services and Population and Community Health. A draft EDAU Staff Station risk assessment will be completed by Friday 19 July.

On the 19 July we will circulate the risk assessment via email to provide input/feedback. Staff have until Sunday 28 July to provide input/feedback.

On Monday 29 July, we will organise an in-person session for staff who wishes to attend and we will also invite the Health Services Union and other unions to attend.


Should you wish to discuss further, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely



Jennie Barry

General Manager, Prince of Wales and Sydney/Sydney Eye Hospitals



Chris Hay

11/7/2024

General Manager, Mental Health



Marianne Gale

Director, Population & Community Health

11 July 2024