



Healthscope

8 April 2020

## Dear Doctor,

I am committed to remaining connected with our valued healthcare partners. Our systems and processes continue to adapt and respond to meet the evolving needs of our patients, doctors, clinical teams, and practice staff during these challenging times of COVID-19.

**Healthscope stands ready** to support the public health sector, our doctors, and our local communities. We are working closely with Federal and State Government to ensure the health and safety of our patients, visitors, staff, and doctors.

Please be advised that all non-essential face to face meetings, including our GP CPD program and in-situ visits have been suspended until further notice.

We are providing important updates on changes to hospital services via:

- Sydney North Health Network communication channels
- Our website [www.northernbeacheshospital.com.au](http://www.northernbeacheshospital.com.au)
- Fax out.

## Northern Beaches Hospital services

**Emergency Department:** our ED is open and operates 24/7, staffed by highly trained healthcare professionals. We adhere to the latest infection control guidelines to ensure the safety of our team and patients.

**Coronavirus Clinic:** the clinic is located at the rear of the ED. People should follow the red line outside of the hospital and use the intercom to be escorted for testing so that they remain separate from those with other emergency requirements waiting in the ED. The clinic is open daily 0930 – 1800.

**Surgical Services:** elective surgery is limited to only Category 1 and urgent/emergency Category 2 procedures. All other surgeries are suspended. Elective work up until that date will follow exclusions and considerations based on risk profile and staff safety and ICU and PPE resource preservation.

**Maternity Services:** antenatal and gestational diabetes education sessions and visits to the maternity wards have been suspended. Online education is provided in place of face to face group education.

**Mental Health Services:** we have a large mental health facility on site for public and private patients and we continue to take emergency admissions. You can refer to our day programs, and your patient will be called and added to the wait list. We are not currently running face to face groups as we work in line with Government directives. We will re-evaluate month to month as restrictions lift and you and your patients will be contacted and triaged where possible. For emergencies, people can attend the ED or telephone the 24/7 Mental Health Line on 1800 011 511 and Lifeline on 13 11 14.





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The health and wellbeing of our patients, families, and staff members is paramount. As a result, we have implemented numerous safeguards to maintain the integrity of our services and facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information, please refer to the [Healthscope website](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Business Development and GP Liaison, Nicola Pellegrini on 0429 539 394.

Yours sincerely,

**Andrew Newton**  
Chief Executive Officer

