



June 3, 2020

**ILLINOIS HEALTH AND HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
MEMORANDUM**

SUBJECT: IDPH Notice re: Elective Inpatient Surgeries and Procedures

This morning, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) sent hospitals a notice ([click here](#)) via SIREN concerning the specific circumstances and metrics under which hospitals may perform elective *inpatient* surgeries and procedures as originally outlined in IDPH's April 24 *Guidance on Elective Surgeries and Procedures*.

Individual hospitals must meet **ALL** three following requirements to perform elective *inpatient* procedures:

- Hospital availability of adult medical/surgical beds exceeds 20% of operating capacity for adult medical/surgical beds;
- Hospital availability of ICU beds exceeds 20% of operating capacity for ICU beds; and
- Hospital ventilator availability exceeds 20% of total ventilators.

IDPH will calculate a hospital's availability/capacity as follows: A calculation of available beds/ventilators divided by total bed/ventilator capacity. Every Wednesday night, IDPH will run a report from EMResource to determine if hospitals meet the above requirements. Specifically, the report will show if a hospital is below the 20% threshold in any of the above three categories, calculated as a rolling average of the previous seven days. Beginning this Friday, June 5, IDPH will notify hospitals every Friday if they are under the 20% threshold in any of the three categories.

If a hospital is notified by IDPH that it has fallen below 20% in any of the three categories during the preceding seven-day period, IDPH directs the hospital to evaluate the current census, number of scheduled procedures from the relevant seven-day period, and any other relevant factors to determine why the 20% threshold was not maintained. IDPH requests any hospital not meeting the criteria to institute measures to meet the 20% thresholds, including measures to decrease scheduled cases, such as rescheduling procedures, placing patients in an "on-call" status, and/or cancelling procedures for the upcoming week.

The hospital should respond by sending a situational update to IDPH at DPH.HospitalReports@illinois.gov within forty-eight hours of being notified that it is not meeting established thresholds. IDPH will review the hospital's situational update and provide consultation when needed.

NOTE: Hospitals not performing elective inpatient procedures may receive a notification that it is not meeting established thresholds. If your hospital is below the 20% thresholds, but is not performing elective inpatient procedures, inform IDPH of such at DPH.HospitalReports@illinois.gov.

Hospitals are urged to make sure their numbers are updated twice a day in EMResource at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. It is important that this data is entered correctly and that it accurately reflects a hospital's bed and vent capacity as this data is used by IDPH to make the determination about whether conditions have been met for inpatient elective surgeries and procedures.

The definitions of bed capacity and available bed capacity have been expanded to more accurately represent a hospital's ability to surge up during a potential outbreak. An updated EMResource user guide can be found [here](#) and in the document library of EMResource. The recording of the May 26 Illinois and Chicago Departments of Public Health webinar on EMResource can be found [here](#).

If you have questions or need more information, please [contact IHA](#).