

# MENTAL HEALTH EBA UPDATE



## IMPORTANT CHANGES TO HDU STAFFING SEPTEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>

As was agreed upon in the Victorian Public Mental Health Services Enterprise Agreement 2016-2020, as of the 1st of September 2018, changes come into effect in the High Dependency Units across the State of Victoria. Clause 92.4 states that the following staffing profiles will be required in all HDUs as of this coming Saturday.

Number of beds	Minimum Number of Nurses for HDU
1-2 beds	1 nurse
3-5 beds	2 nurses
6-7 beds	3 nurses
8-9 beds	4 nurses
10 beds or more	1 nurse per 2 beds

Other important changes include:

- All HDU Staff having appropriate levels of training to work in the high dependency environment
- Where practicable, casual staff should not be used in the HDU unless sufficiently trained
- Student Nurses should not be on shift in HDUs
- Shifts in HDU should not exceed 4 hours unless agreed upon by the staff member and shift leader

If you notice that the HDU at your worksite does not have at minimum the number of staff listed above please contact HACSU to advise us on **1300 651 931**. We also want you to contact us if you notice that LDUs or other areas in the service are understaffed as a result of the increases in HDU or if there are any issues, incidents or violence that occurs as a result of under-staffing.