



25 March 2020

Bethesda is responding to the Prime Ministers request today to cancel non urgent surgery immediately effective from midnight tonight.

Our Medical Advisory Committee had already come to this decision; however the Prime Minister's request has brought this decision forward. As such, we will only provide urgent surgery from now on.

Bethesda's palliative care unit remains open and will continue to do so.

Our stocks of personal protect equipment (PPE) such as gloves, gowns and masks required to protect nurses, doctors and other health care workers, and help to reduce the spread of infection are always in short supply, but we are coping. This is one of the reasons the Government has stopped all non-urgent surgery.

We are in the process of liaising with our specialist surgeons and patients to give effect to this as soon as possible. It is a difficult situation to manage. **Patients who have booked admissions should get in touch with their surgeon's rooms ASAP.**

We are also working closely with the other Perth private and public hospitals in the management of this crisis.

Let's stay together and look after each other.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Neale Fong", written in a cursive style.

Dr Neale Fong
Chief Executive Officer