# COVID-19 Pandemic CRITCON Levels

**Please declare CRITCON level and for CRITCON 1, 2 or 3 the staffing level A or B**

| DEFINITION | STATUS |
|---|---|
| **Normal – *'Business as usual'*** | |
| • Normal, able to meet all critical care needs, without impact on other services<br>• Normal winter levels of non-clinical transfer and other overflow activity. | **CRITCON 0** |
| **Low Surge – *'Bad winter'*** | |
| • Usual funded critical care capacity full. Some non-clinical transfers | **CRITCON 1** |
| **Medium Surge – *'Unprecedented'*** | |
| • Usual funded critical care capacity full – overflow into quasi-critical care areas (theatre recovery, other acute care areas). High level of non-clinical transfers<br>• Trusts beginning mutual aid | **CRITCON 2** |
| **High Surge – *'Full stretch'*** | |
| • Expansion into non-critical care areas (e.g. wards) and/or use of paediatric facilities for adult critical care. Trust operating at or near maximum physical capacity.<br>• Maximum mutual aid between Trusts, with network and regional NHSE co-ordination.<br>• The prime imperative in CRITCON 3 is to prevent any single trust entering CRITCON 4 | **CRITCON 3** |
| **Triage – *'Emergency'*** | |
| • Resources overwhelmed. Possibility of triage by resource (non-clinical refusal or withdrawal of critical care due to resource limitation).<br>• This must **only** be implemented on national directive from NHSE and in accordance with national guidance. | **CRITCON 4** |
| **Staff Declaration: CRITCON 1,2 & 3 SHOULD BE FURTHER CATEGORISED A OR B** | |
| • Adhering to BACCN / ICS staffing recommendations or unit norm | **A** |
| • Staffing below BACCN / ICS staffing recommendations or unit norm | **B** |