

SETTING UP A SURGICAL HIGH DEPENDENCY UNIT IN A DISTRICT HOSPITAL WITH SPECIALIST; OUR EXPERIENCE.

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Hospital Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah (HoSHAS) is a district hospital with specialists in Temerloh, Pahang. HoSHAS caters to the needs of patients from west and central Pahang. Due to the high volume of patients relative to the hospital capacity, the demand for ICU beds often exceeds supply. Data from the department census revealed that for the year 2021, 89 patients (1.56% of total admissions for 2021) were ventilated in the male surgical ward. To improve monitoring and care of critically ill surgical patients, the department of General Surgery HoSHAS converted a cubicle in the surgical male ward into a High Dependency Unit (HDU). This poster will showcase our experience in setting up the HDU; from idea inception, paperwork, funding, renovation works, advantages and limitations of running the HDU. The aim of this poster presentation is to inspire and provide some insight to other departments that are considering setting up a HDU in their unit.