

## **NYU Langone to again expand emergency department at Manhattan flagship**

After completing a roughly \$6 million expansion earlier this year, NYU Langone Health is planning another upgrade to its emergency department at Tisch Hospital on the East Side.

The nearly \$2 million project is expected to add a secure holding suite designed to better accommodate patients with behavioral health issues, according to a certificate-of-need filing with the state.

Plans for the 1,400-square-foot space include five secure holding rooms; one patient lounge space, designed to be used under staff observation; and a nurses station with special retrofitting, NYU Langone said in its filing.

The nurses station is designed to be secured for staff access only and to provide direct visual observation of all patients areas, the health system added. It is expected to also house a local medication "safety zone."

Staff would be able to access the secure holding space via an outside corridor, according to NYU Langone. And the space is expected to have multiple controlled access points within it.

"At a time when the need for mental health services is increasing and patients are presenting in acute crisis to emergency departments, NYU Langone Health is committed to providing a state-of-the-art care environment that allows for privacy, security, safety and dignity," said Dr. Fritz François, chief medical officer and patient safety officer at the health system, and a professor at NYU School of Medicine, in a statement provided to *Crain's*.

NYU Langone earlier this year received approval from the state for another expansion of the emergency department at its flagship hospital.

That project, which was aimed at better accommodating increasing demand for patient services as well as impact from the pandemic, is already complete.

It added a dozen patient treatment stations, including four enclosed rooms, to help address emergency department overcrowding. The stations are located in a 3,600-square-foot former shell space adjacent to the existing emergency department.

The 35,000-square-foot Ronald O. Perelman Center for Emergency Services encompasses traditional emergency department space as well as other facilities.

Last year NYU Langone clocked more than 88,000 visits to the center, of which 83% were made by city residents. Emergency department visit volume has been growing at a rate of 7% to 8% each year, the health system said in a previous filing.