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In

Interior Design Concepts and Features in General Hospitals

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Abstract

This thesis is dedicated to studying two main points concerning the interior design of general hospitals. The first point is concerned with studying the new interior design concepts and trends that have evolved over the past few years and how design concepts have changed the features of the interior design of hospitals. The second point is concerned with studying the features or elements that compose the interior design environment of the hospital.

At the beginning of the thesis the history of how hospital architectural design has evolved since world war two was seen as being a good introduction to show how the designers thinking and designing methods have evolved through the decades, thus paving the way to understanding how the designers methodology of design and way of thinking has also evolved and introduced new trends to the hospital interior design. It was found that there are a few main concepts or theories that have evolved over the past few years; the salutogenentic perspective theory, supportive healthcare design, evidence based design or EBD. At the end all theories have one main aim, and it is how to create for all hospital users a healing environment, an environment that is stress free and helps patients not only to receive medical attention but also to heal them and cause them no additional stress, to create for them an environment that is friendly. The aim is also to create for visitors and staff a stress free environment and to help staff perform their task to best standards possible. The new trends are introduced and explained in terms of theory and how they are expected to affect all hospital users.

Six main features were found to compose the hospital interior design in order to create a healing environment. These features are Color, light, Nature, Visual Art, Furniture, and Internal finishes.

These features or elements are then studied in detail. Each feature is explained and defined in a chapter. Each feature is analyzed in terms of its importance to all users; it's psychological and physiological effect on the users. How each feature can be utilized in the hospital interior environment, in what form, and where it is best suited to be utilized in order to serve best. As a result of this analysis guidelines are drawn and defined. These guidelines are then gathered at the end of each chapter. Chapter seven of this thesis is dedicated to compiling these guidelines as a document to follow while designing any interior design of any hospital.

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