

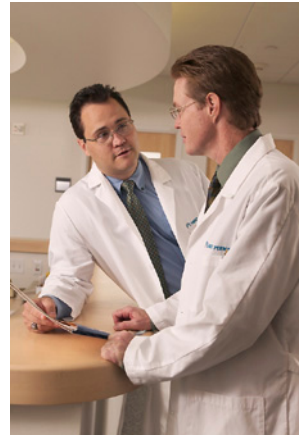


Room Focus: Inpatient Unit Core

The inpatient unit design is based on the concept of distributed nursing. This concept was developed through interviews, tours and benchmarking of existing units, and workshops that evaluated unit design and stimulated discussion about the future of inpatient care. More than 100 caregivers from 10 medical centers participated in the process. The decentralized Inpatient Unit Core maintains the positive features of a central nurse's station, builds upon on the collaborative environment that naturally occurs, and provides a secure off-stage zone for efficient retrieval of supplies, confidential conversations, respite and training.

Safety by Design

- **Visibility and control** are enhanced by the triangular unit design, significantly wider perimeter circulation, and clinical stations that located immediately across from patient bedrooms
- Medication rooms are **distributed** and more accessible
- The configuration of the inpatient unit core **minimizes the number of steps** needed in a day. Multiple **short cuts** across and through the core brings support spaces within convenient distance for physicians, other clinicians, and non-clinical support staff
- Workstations are **height adjustable**, making them ergonomically appropriate for diverse staff and tasks
- **New flooring** standard decreases slips, trips and falls, reduces noise, and lessens impact stress on legs and lower back
- The use of both **direct and indirect lighting** at the clinical work station reduces glare and fatigue



Technology

- Wireless computing
- Mobile computer carts



Architect's rendering of core workstation at entry to Inpatient Unit

Innovations

- **Sufficient** number of **workstations** conveniently located for physicians, other clinicians, and non-clinical support staff, **even at peak times**
- Inpatient workstations are distributed around a central offstage core to provide for **separate on-stage and off-stage zones**
- Clinician's station designed as individual pieces of furniture (not fixed casework), which increases **flexibility and adaptability**
- Computers face away from the public, protecting **patient privacy**



Architect's rendering of "off-stage" report room with amenities alcove in center of Inpatient Unit core