

E. MORALES, E.R.C.M. HUISMAN, H.S.M. KORT. **Evidence-based design proposal of a single-patient room in a healthcare facility.** *Gerontechnology* 2012;11(2):301; doi:10.4017/gt.2012.11.02.391.00

**Purpose** Our aim is to provide general guidelines for an evidence-based design (EBD) proposal for a single-patient room in a healthcare facility from a ‘healing environment’ perspective.

**Method** A systematic literature review was performed in order to identify the relationships between the different components of two different models combined<sup>1</sup>: The International Classification of Functioning model (ICF), and the Model of Integrated Building Design (MIBD) were used for this project. The Cochrane Methodology<sup>2</sup> was used to search and organize the data from PubMed (Medline) JSTOR, and SCOPUS with the following keywords: evidence-based design, hospital design, healthcare design, healthcare quality, outcomes, patient safety, staff safety, infection, hand washing, medical errors, falls, pain, sleep, stress, depression, confidentiality, social support, satisfaction, single rooms, noise, nature and daylight. Publications were selected that referred to the physical environment of healthcare facilities in the title and the abstract. The identified needs of patients, nurses, and environmental factors were combined to create an EBD-proposal for a ‘general’ single-patient room. The resulting design was commented on by 3 nurses of the mother and child unit of Meander Medical Centre, Amersfoort, The Netherlands, and the design of the room was upgraded in line with their feedback (*Figure 1*). **Results & Discussion**

Most accidents occur between the patient room and the bathroom or inside the bathroom<sup>3</sup>. For this reason, in our design, a grab bar is placed from the bed to the toilet to provide support. To provide a glimpse of nature, a small tree is placed in one corner of the room separated by glass. To improve adherence to hygiene procedures, a double sink is located in the middle of the room to act as a constant reminder to visitors and staff to wash hands; separate basins are provided for staff and visitors to avoid contamination with infections. This room design aims to make a contribution to the healing process by its integrating of a large body of evidence.

**References**

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**Affiliation:** CIRRIIS, bureau H-1312, Québec, Canada; E: ernestomorales\_mx@yahoo.ca

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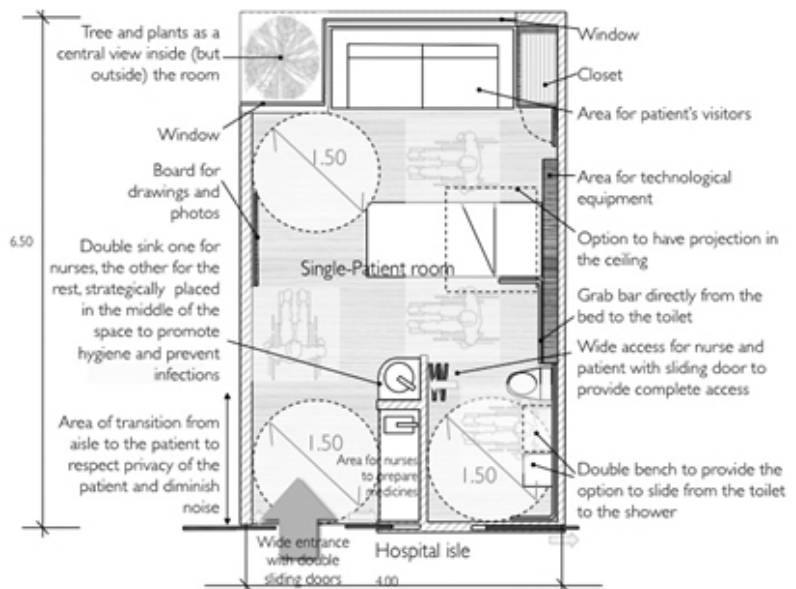


Figure 1: Final proposal of a single patient room in a healthcare facility