

E.R.C.M. HUISMAN, H.S.M. KORT. Creating sustainable healthcare facilities through strategy on lighting and home automation. Gerontechnology 2013; 12(1):58; doi:10.4017/gt.2013.12.1.004.00

Purpose The population in the Netherlands is ageing rapidly. Apart from the influence of ageing, research has shown that there is a relation between the indoor environment and health problems. The discussions focus on traditional and institutionally designed healthcare facilities relative to the actual well-being of patients and staff as an indicator of their health and recovery. A growing body of research in evidence-based design (EBD) demonstrates that elements of the physical environment correlate with health-related outcomes¹. EBD is defined by the Center for Health Design as ‘the process of basing decisions about the built environment on credible research to achieve the best possible outcomes’. This PhD-project aims to investigate aspects of the physical environment and their contribution to the well-being of care professionals in healthcare facilities. **Method** The framework of this study is The International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) of the World Health Organization². In the ICF model the health condition is related to environmental and personal factors. The focus in this study is on the environmental factors. Within the ICF the environmental factors are classified in the physical environment and the social environment (healthcare professionals). **Results & Discussion** The outcomes generated in this PhD-project are expected to underpin and integrate knowledge about the physical environment. In particular the contribution of several aspects of building physics to sustainable healthcare facilities.

References

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