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Health > Clinical Space

Consult Room



FUNCTION

Health care environments play a critical role in supporting compassionate healing, personalized and coordinated health care treatments, and fostering connection between providers, patients, and their families.

Consultation rooms provide opportunities for one-on-one interactions with health care professionals in a smaller, more intimate setting. Providers can host aftercare consultations to address patients' concerns. Design that minimizes stress can provide valuable benefits in an institutional health care setting, enhancing the overall patient experience.



SPATIAL COMPONENTS

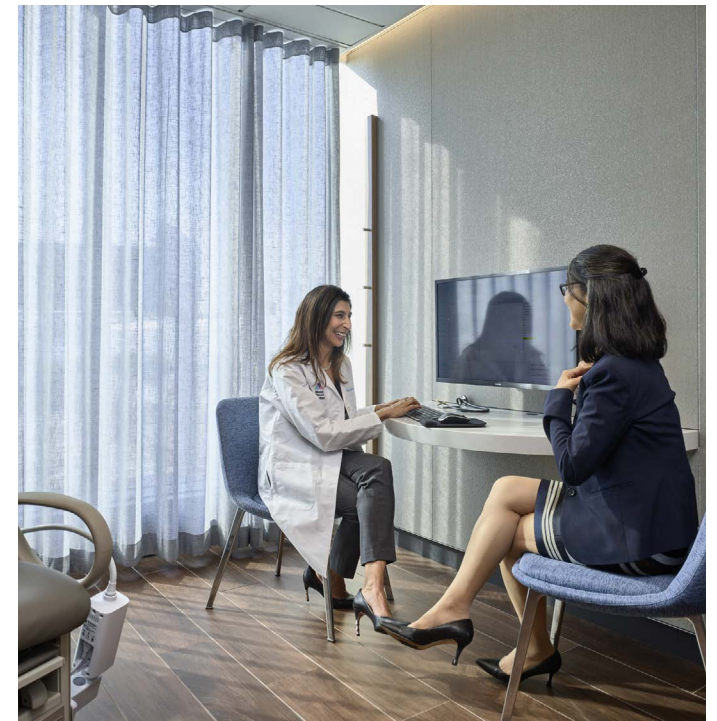
- Consider incorporating a flexible design that can be personalized to meet the unique needs of individual patients.
- Provide discreet access to and egress from consult rooms.
- When possible, locate consult rooms on the perimeter of a floor plan, away from areas of heavy circulation.
- Maximize daylighting while controlling for glare and thermal load.
- To provide a more intimate scale, the floor area of a consult room should be no more than 120 SF.



LESSONS LEARNED

- Locate aftercare consultation rooms in close proximity to patient exam rooms for ease of access and convenience.
- Create consult rooms that can seamlessly accommodate both in-person and telehealth care visits.
- Consider the integration of the workstation in the room. Monitor configuration in consult rooms should support focused individual work as well as sharing with others. Workstations should be designed with considerations for power and data capacity.

Private, small-scale setting for discussion



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Comforting, warm, and natural materials



EXPERIENTIAL QUALITY

Address the diverse needs of patients

- Design for private and quiet moments as well as open and interactive engagements.
- Allow for easy personalization and customization of the environment with adjustable lighting and temperature controls.
- Design to engage different senses such as visual, tactile, and auditory stimuli, and ensure that the space accommodates all abilities.

Evaluate access and privacy

- Plan for a clear circulation path from patient-facing public areas to the consult rooms using visual cues and wayfinding elements.
- Consider placing the consult rooms near exits to ensure privacy of departure, and to respect the emotional needs of patients.



MATERIALITY

- Use materials that are easily cleaned and disinfected.
- Choose furnishings that suit the more intimate scale of the space.

Floor

- Install durable flooring material that can withstand renovations and time. Tiled carpeting and resilient flooring options like linoleum are standard options for consult room spaces.

Wall

- Ensure that soundproofing and window treatments provide privacy and minimize distractions.

Ceiling

- Feature ample overhead lighting and a lighter color palette in room finishes.