

BEAUTY AND INNOVATION IN HEALTHCARE DESIGN:
THE FORT WORTH CLINIC

by

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the Department of Interior Design and Fashion Merchandising
Texas Christian University
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BEAUTY AND INNOVATION IN HEALTHCARE DESIGN:
THE FORT WORTH CLINIC

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ABSTRACT

The Fort Worth Clinic will provide urgent health services to those families that do not want to pay emergency room fees, or may not have a primary care physician. In recent years, healthcare designers and architects have proved that healthcare spaces can, not only be highly functional, but innovative and beautiful. The scope of the project includes three of the five phases of design: programming, schematic design, and design development. Through these phases, the design concept is established, the floor plan is solidified and the overall interior design of the space is accomplished. The clinic will house exam rooms, procedure and x-ray rooms, a nurse station, a staff lounge, and offices. The space will be planned in a way that is most efficient for the nurses that work there, and will be designed with products that are approved for healthcare spaces, which are both cleanable and wearable. The space will be inviting to the patients as well as functional to those that work there. The atmosphere will be comfortable and inviting with contrasting warm hues. The Fort Worth Clinic will provide immediate health services, but makes the patient feel as if they have entered a hospitality environment.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank my Interior Design professors, Gayla Shannon and Amy Roehl for providing me with helpful insight about the practices of Interior Design as well as being a resource through this process. I would also like to thank Susan Lockwood for being a part of my committee and providing important information regarding the needs of nurses as it pertains to healthcare design.

CONCEPT STATEMENT

The design for The Fort Worth Clinic seeks to provide a comforting environment for patients, while also enabling a functional and productive space for the physicians and staff that work there. In recent years, healthcare designers have sought to push healthcare design towards concepts that resemble hospitality spaces. Manufacturers have welcomed this idea, and have begun to produce high-quality, luxurious materials and finishes that are extremely wearable and cleanable, making them appropriate for a clinical space. The Fort Worth Clinic design draws from the very city that it resides in and holds to the standards that are required for healthcare space, such as durability. The clinic combines both beauty and innovations, accomplishing what interior designers hope to provide with every space they design, artistic functionality.

The concept for this space draws from, what I consider to be, one of the most beautiful locations in Fort Worth: The Botanic Gardens. Nature is a common concept for many healthcare spaces, as it has proven to aid in the healing of many patients. The Botanic Gardens are not only full of calming nature scenes, but are a recognizable environment to most people that live in Fort Worth. Providing a serene atmosphere that is also familiar to the patients that will visit this clinic provides a well-rounded concept to the overall atmosphere of the space.

The Fort Worth Clinic includes eight exam rooms, procedure room, x-ray room, laboratory, staff lounge, centralized nurse station for easy access to patients, reception and waiting area, administrative office, physician's office, and medical/office storage. The reception, waiting room and public restroom is

accessible to all people that will come to the clinic. This space is filled with comfortable arms chairs and waiting chairs that provide a lounge space for those waiting to be seen by a physician or friends and family of the patient. A circular space plan creates soft lines and a general sense of way finding from the reception desk to the entrance into the clinical space. The materials in this space are very warm, with use of rich green fabric and large limestone brick walls that mimic that of the Botanic Gardens. A luxurious yet comfortable feel is created.

The door to the right of the reception desk leads into the patient and staff area, which is blocked off to the public. The same feeling of warmth and luxury is carried throughout the clinical space, however cleaner lines and functionality are utilized. A loop-style circulation path is utilized, with the exam rooms, procedure/x-ray rooms, staff lounge, and administrative offices on the perimeter, and the nurse station, laboratory and storage in the core. This is done purposefully in order to maximize accessibility to each exam room and minimize the amount of steps that a nurse or staff member will take on a daily basis.

The materials in the overall space are very important, not only in creating an aesthetic, but also keeping with the regulations and standards that are necessary for healthcare spaces. The flooring in the corridors, waiting area, and exam rooms are *To Market* vinyl tile planks that create the appearance of hard wood floors, but are highly durable and easy to clean. Three varying tones of wood are used in a specific pattern in order to create a sense of way finding into each of the exam rooms and mark off the centralized area of the clinic, which includes the storage, nurse station and lab. These areas are meant for staff only. In the laboratory, procedure room and

x-ray room, sheet vinyl is used as a durable homogeneous flooring material that is very easy to clean and sealed tightly, making it very hard for bacteria to settle into the material. In the offices, 2'x2' carpet tile are installed for easy maintenance and durability. Laminate wood cabinets are used throughout the space, once again for a natural wood look that is still affordable. The last important material in the space is fabric, used on the seating in the waiting room, offices and exam rooms. These fabrics are from the manufacturer *Maharam* and have at least 100,000 double rubs, meaning that the fabric is ideal for high-usage environments that will not be replaced for twenty or thirty years. As a frame of reference, most residential fabrics have 30,000 to 50,000 double rubs. All of the finishes in the space embody the design concept, by only using warm brown and green tones to create a continuous and comforting environment for the entire patient experience.

Healthcare design is an ever growing and changing industry, however, the key to creating a successful healthcare space is combining beauty, durability, and functionality. The Fort Worth Clinic seeks to accomplish all three of these factors, optimizing a positive patient experience, while also being a safe and efficient place to work on a daily basis. The warm and calming hues of the Botanic Gardens inspire the aesthetic of the space and the proven efficiency of a loop-style circulation portray a realistic depiction of what modern urgent care clinics are today.

****For a visual representation of this project, please see the attached presentation****

The Fort Worth Clinic

Claire Peters, Interior Design
May 4, 2015

Concept Statement

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Concept Imagery: Healthcare Facilities



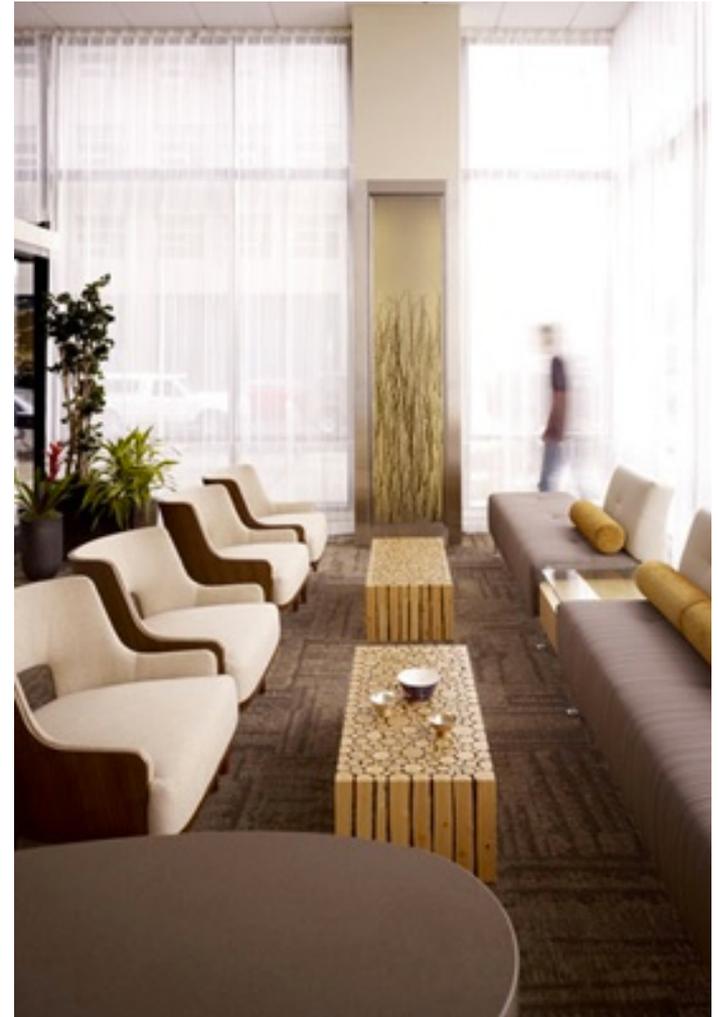
<http://media.baylorhealth.com/channels/locations-mckinney/photos/main-lobby-baylor-medical-center-at-mckinney>



<http://media.baylorhealth.com/channels/locations-mckinney/photos/nurses-station-baylor-medical-center-at-mckinney-1>



<http://media.baylorhealth.com/channels/locations-mckinney/photos/hallway-baylor-medical-center-at-mckinney>



<http://www.callison.com/projects/swedish-medical-group-south-lake-union-clinic>

Concept Imagery: Fort Worth Botanic Gardens



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/amydugh/5702011389/in/photostream>

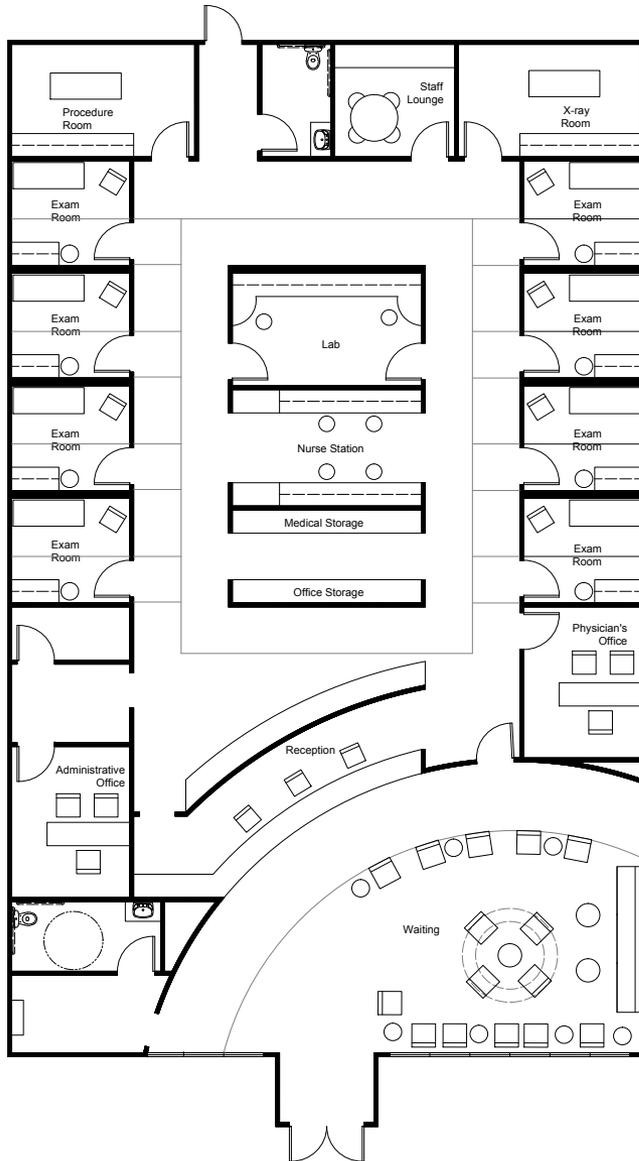


<http://www.jonathanivphoto.com/wedding-venues/dallas-wedding-venues-in-dfw/>



<https://www.flickr.com/photos/dfikar1/11223847285/>

Floor Plan



Urgent Care to Include:

- 8 Exam Rooms
- Procedure Room
- X-Ray Room
- Laboratory
- Staff Lounge
- Centralized Nurse Station for
Easy Access to Patients
- Reception and Waiting Area
- Administrative Office
- Physician's Office
- Medical/Office Storage

Floor Pattern

Vinyl Tile Planks



http://samples.tomkt.com/B_OzoGrip_B_reg-Modern_Woods.html



Sheet Vinyl



http://www.armstrong.com/commflooringna/product_details_toolbox_magnify.jsp?item_id=115365

Carpet Tile



<http://www.interface.com/US/en-US/detail/Distressed-6858012999R45S001#partNumber=6858003999R45S001&page=summary>

Materials/Furnishings



http://www.carolinabusinessfurniture.com/products/patient/exam_stool/



<http://www.ofsbrands.com/products/detail/82%7C115/5/3742>



http://www.carolinabusinessfurniture.com/products/occasional_tables/



<http://maharam.com/products/across/colors/006-cloudburst>



Nurse Station



Waiting Room

