Facility Design and Healthcare-Acquired Infections


Key Concepts/Context
This article outlines the relationship between select design elements and the pervasive problem of healthcare-acquired infections.

Methods
Current information related to the impact of select design elements on hospital-acquired infections was categorized into the three areas of surfaces, management of airflow, and water. Each area was addressed with respect to multi-drug-resistant organisms and traditional vs. innovative cleaning techniques.

Findings
The intersection of healthcare design and infection prevention is relatively new. While many new strategies are being developed, research is still needed to determine the efficacy of new methods and contribute to the evidence-based design knowledge base.

Design Implications
This article provides a nice summary for healthcare leaders to reference when making healthcare design decisions.

Limitations
The author describes several innovative infection prevention measures and provides a strong reference list. No description is provided as to how the articles referenced in this article were selected.