Faculti Summary

https://staging.faculti.net/healthy-outcomes-post-occupancy-study/

This video video discusses a post-occupancy evaluation of a new chronic care hospital building in Canada, replacing an older facility. It highlights the unique opportunity to compare responses from staff and patients who transitioned from the old building to the new one, emphasizing the importance of architectural design on human experience, particularly in healthcare settings.

The evaluation aimed to assess how the new building's design, which included more individual and accessible spaces, affected the psychosocial well-being of patients. Researchers observed factors such as wayfinding, social interaction opportunities, and the emotional impact of the environment.

Findings indicated that although patients and staff generally enjoyed improved brightness and cheerfulness in the new facility—enhanced by ample windows and meaningful views—there were fewer chances for social interaction compared to the older building, despite the increased volume and space.

Key takeaways include the significance of design in healthcare environments: well-lit, sociable spaces are beneficial to patient well-being, and people are drawn to areas with more social activity. The research reinforces the idea that while the quantity of facilities is important, the quality and accessibility of common areas significantly impact patient experience. Overall, the study affirms the influence of architectural design on healing and mental health in care settings.