

GLOSSARY

COMMON HEALTHCARE ACRONYMS AND TERMS	
AI	Airborne Infection Isolation room
ADL	Activities of Daily Living
AHJ	Authority Having Jurisdiction
ALF	Assisted Living Facility
Bariatric	Relating to or specializing in the treatment of obesity; also known as “persons of size”
Behavioral Health	The scientific study of the emotions, behaviors and biology relating to a person’s mental well-being, their ability to function in everyday life
CCRC	Continuing Care Retirement Community
CRI	Color Rendering Index
DCF	Durable Coated Fabric: a non-porous coated upholstery fabric commonly provided as polyurethane, silicone, thermoplastic elastomer and/or vinyl
DCOF	Dynamic Coefficient of Friction
Dialysis	An invasive treatment that diverts and filters the blood of a patient whose kidneys are not able to perform this function, it requires the patient to be immobilized and connected to a dialysis machine
Durable Coated Fabric	Non-porous coated fabric, commonly known as polyurethane, silicone or vinyl
EMR	Electronic medical records
Fabric	All upholstery fabrics are generically referred to as “fabric”, regardless of their material composition
FF&E	Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment
HEPA	High Efficiency Particulate Air
HVAC	Heating, Ventilating and Air-Conditioning
ICRA	Infection Control Risk Assessment
ICU	Intensive Care Unit
IEQ	Indoor Environmental Quality
Infusion	The process of receiving medicines through intravenous lines
LDR	Labor-Delivery-Recovery
LDRP	Labor-Delivery-Recovery-Postpartum
Memo Tag	Fabric memo samples are typically provided with an attached manufacturer’s product label containing information about material composition, properties, and testing. While manufacturers and suppliers call this a “Sample Ticket”, these terms are used interchangeably
MOB	Medical Office Building
MRI	Magnetic Resonance Imaging
NICU	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

NRC	Noise Reduction Coefficient, a term used to evaluate the ability of a material to either reflect or absorb sound, rating typically noted as 0.00 to 1.00. A material that reflects all sound would rate 0.00, while a material that absorbs all sound would rate 1.00
Restricted Area	An area which requires specific clothing and preparation
SNF	Skilled Nursing Facility
STC	Sound Transmission Class, the measurement used to calculate effectiveness of soundproofing materials in reducing sound transmission between rooms, it is measured roughly by the decibel (dB) reduction in noise a material or partition can provide
Woven Textile Fabric	Formed by weaving or interlacing two or more threads at right angles to one another, often created on a loom

ORGANIZATIONS, AGENCIES, GOVERNMENT RESOURCES

ACA	Affordable Care Act
ADA	American with Disabilities Act
ADAAG	Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines
ANSI	American National Standards Institute
ASTM	American Society for Testing of Materials
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CHD	The Center for Health Design
CMS	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
DOH	Department of Health
FGI	Facilities Guidelines Institute publishes the Guidelines for Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities
HCAHPS	Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
IBC	International Building Code
IES	Illuminating Engineering Society
JCAHO	Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations
LEED	Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
NIOSH	The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
NFPA	National Fire Protection Agency
NSF	National Sanitation Foundation
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
Planetree	Planetree.org
The Greenhouse Project	An American national non-profit organization dedicated to creating caring homes for meaningful lives for elders, where residents have private rooms and bathrooms and can move freely through the home. It is based on the philosophy seeking to reverse enforced dependency by creating intentional communities of 7-10 elders, designed to foster late-life development and growth.

PLANNING CONCEPTS

Environment of Care: any site where patients are treated, whose objective is to provide a safe, functional, and effective environment for patients, staff members, and others

Evidence-based design: the process of basing decisions about the built environment on credible research to achieve the best possible outcomes

Household model/Small house model: long-term care homes adopt a person-centered approach that shapes the physical environment, organizational structure, and interpersonal relationships to create a home-like atmosphere, while providing elders with clear opportunities to direct their own lives

Patient-centered care: respectful of, and responsive to, individual patient preferences, needs and values, ensuring that patient values guide all clinical decisions

Wayfinding concepts: information systems which guide people through a high stress physical environment, enhancing their understanding and spatial experience, while contributing to a sense of well-being, safety, and security