

Project: Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children
Location: Wilmington, DE
Architect: FKP Architects
Products: Acrovyn by Design®
Acrovyn® Headwalls & Wall Guards
Acrovyn® Doors



About the Project

To meet increasing healthcare demands and growing patient needs, Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children expanded its Delaware campus. Completed in late 2014, the expansion includes new family-centered patient rooms, enhanced family amenities, collaborative team spaces and a new emergency department with 44 exam rooms. Before embarking on the 557,000 square-foot expansion, FKP Architects did some fact finding with those most knowledgeable about kid-friendly environments – local children.

Design Goals

While innovative additions like a roller coaster and a zoo couldn't fit into the layout, the hospital's Youth Advisory Council recommended an interactive, playful environment that could make a hospital stay less scary. To keep functionality a top priority, the design team created spaces that comfort young patients and their families as well as deliver the durability demanded of a busy children's care center.

Results

The team used the unlimited design possibilities of Acrovyn by Design to transform the walls of the emergency department at Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children. Vibrant, colorful drawings created by local young people for a design contest are now showcased throughout the area. The high-resolution images, straight from a child's imagination, entertain young patients, distracting and comforting them. Embedded behind impact-resistant, PVC-free rigid material, the art has its own protective shield that safeguards against damage while making cleaning easy.

Inside emergency department exam rooms, rolling medical equipment and beds can take a toll on walls. To eliminate this, high-quality Acrovyn wall panels were installed to create stunning headwalls. Matching corner guards were added to the hallways for a cohesive, calming look. With over 600 doors at the facility, FKP Architects selected C/S Acrovyn Doors to enhance the overall design. Due to their durability, Acrovyn Doors eliminate the need for kick plates and edge guards, contributing to the warm, yet highly functional environment.

At a Glance:

A variety of wall and door protection help to create a healthy and effective healthcare facility where kids can freely interact with their environment. Acrovyn by Design protects children's artwork, providing a fun and positive distraction for patients and their families.



"Our panel of children said the number one characteristic of new hospital designs should be to make it less scary," said Kay Holbrook, MSN, RN, NE-BC, Associate Administrator, Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children. "We focus on the health of our young patients by delivering high-quality, clinical care. But just as important is the environment in which we provide that care. Children are welcome to touch the bright, colorful wall art that was designed by their peers, not adults. The hospital's environment helps our patients feel safe and offers diversion as we help them heal."

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