



IMAGINE

Cancer treatment centers built without
materials linked to cancer

Pediatric clinics free of chemicals
that trigger asthma

Hospitals with healthy food, fresh air, sunlight

Imagination is becoming reality today.

The dynamic new healthy building initiative being used
by leading health care institutions is now available
to you online at no cost.

www.gghc.org

GREEN GUIDE
for Health Care[™]



Creating high performance healing environments

The Green Guide for Health Care is the premier green building guide for the health care industry—and a transformational new tool for building hospitals that are healthy for people and the environment.

This comprehensive best-practice guide aids health care facilities in their efforts to plan, design, construct, operate and maintain high performance healing environments.

The Green Guide for Health Care is a voluntary, self-certifying system modeled with permission after the US Green Building Council's LEED® rating system, with 96 design and construction points and 72 operations points. Unique features of the Green Guide:

- addresses the particular structural, usage and regulatory challenges of health care buildings;
- considers health issues as an explicit component of each credit;
- incorporates design elements that enhance the healing process.

“The beauty of the Green Guide is that you can pick and choose among the strategies, according to what works best for your situation, to raise the environmental health profile of your facility.”

Gail Vittori, Co-Director,
Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems;
Co-Coordinator Green Guide for Health Care Steering Committee

“As the first quantifiable sustainable design tool for hospitals, the Green Guide for Health Care provides the framework for the health care industry to fulfill its commitment to ‘first do no harm.’”

Robin Guenther, AIA, Principal, Guenther 5 Architects &
Co-Coordinator Green Guide
for Health Care Steering Committee

Examples of best practices in the Green Guide for Health Care:

- incorporating indoor healing gardens, outdoor walking spaces, staff break rooms with views;
- using innovative technologies that address health care's significant energy and water consumption;
- eliminating materials that contain or produce persistent, bioaccumulative, toxic (PBT) chemicals;
- implementing green housekeeping and landscaping protocols.

WANTED!

Your imagination and experience to help shape the Green Guide for Health Care. Join the Green Guide Pilot and Forum to interact with peers in your field who are incorporating healthy designs and technologies into their projects.

Sign up now at www.gghc.org.

3 PRINCIPLES OF HEALTHY BUILDING:

PROTECT

the immediate health of building occupants
the health of the surrounding community
natural resources and the health of the global community



Realize the Power of Imagination

High performance healing environments benefit patients, staff and the bottom line.

HEALTH BENEFITS

By choosing building materials that are free of hazardous chemicals, health care facilities can improve indoor air quality and protect the health of patients and staff.

- ▶ Kaiser Permanente, the nation's largest non-profit health system and an early adopter of the Green Guide for Health Care, is choosing sustainable materials for millions of square feet in new construction to be built over the next decade. KP is seeking alternatives across the board for products containing formaldehyde, mercury and PVC (vinyl). Demonstrating health-care's power to move markets, KP worked with manufacturers to develop a new durable, low emission, PVC-free carpet product with backing made from 95% post-consumer recycled plastic.

LONG TERM COST EFFECTIVENESS

Financial benefits over the life of the building can well exceed the initial investment to design and construct a green facility.

- ▶ Patients with views of nature went home 3/4 of a day sooner, had a \$500 lower cost per case, used fewer heavy medications and exhibited better emotional well being. (Ulrich, R. 1984. Science 224 (647): 420-21.)

ATTRACT AND RETAIN STAFF

Good health care facility design helps improve staff recruitment and retention.

WORKER SAFETY AND PRODUCTIVITY

Health and productivity of workers is a major cost that can be recovered through healthy building efforts.

INCREASED PHILANTHROPIC OPPORTUNITIES

Potential donors appreciate the vision expressed by a commitment to healthy and high performance buildings.

COMMUNITY GOOD WILL

Healthy building protects the local environment and employee health, and conserves community resources.

"It's only fitting that Boston's healthcare industry should embrace green technology. It's good for public health. It's good for the environment. It's good for your bottom line. And it's good for the overall economy."

Boston Mayor Thomas Menino. Boston-area hospitals Brigham and Women's, Dana Farber Cancer Center, and Beverly Hospital are piloting the Green Guide.

Patrick H Dollard Discovery Health Center, Harris, New York.
Guenther 5 Architects, LEED® 2.0 Certified, Winner 2004 ASHE Vista Sustainable Design Award, NYSERDA & Kresge Grant Recipient.

Designed using the Green Guide 1.0.



Evolution of the Green Guide for Health Care

The Green Guide for Health Care was built upon the Green Healthcare Construction Guidance Statement developed by the American Society for Healthcare Engineering in 2002. At the time, the green building movement was gaining significant traction in the United States and abroad, and demand was growing for a design tool specifically tailored to optimize the health and sustainability of health care facilities.

The Green Guide for Health Care was developed by architects, engineers, health care professionals and public health advocates over a two-year public process to fulfill that need.

Using a science-based approach and building on the guiding principles established in the ASHE statement, the Green Guide drew on sources such as the US Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)® rating system, the Australian Green Star rating system, the US Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star program and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 14001 Environmental Performance System. The Green Guide's organizational structure was borrowed by agreement from the US Green Building Council's LEED® rating system, although the Green Guide is not a LEED® system, nor a product of the USGBC.

The Green Guide for Health Care was convened by the Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems, with initial funding provided by the Merck Family Fund. Additional sponsors are Hospitals for a Healthy Environment—a joint program of the American Hospital Association, American Nurses Association, Health Care Without Harm and the US Environmental Protection Agency—and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA).

"The Green Guide for Health Care is a superb resource. It helps the leaders and managers of health care institutions 'walk the talk,' promoting the health of patients, visitors, employees, community members, and the global community, while operating economically and efficiently. I hope that every medical center, hospital, and clinic in the nation gets a copy of the Green Guide and takes its lessons to heart."

Howard Frumkin, M.D., Dr.P.H., FACP, FCOEM
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health
Rollins School of Public Health of Emory University

There is tremendous enthusiasm in the health care industry for the Green Guide for Health Care. Since the Pilot Version 2.0 was released in November 2004, more than 4,000 people from more than 30 countries have registered on the website and a growing number of hospitals are using the Green Guide during its Pilot phase and participating in the peer-to-peer Green Guide Forum.

GREEN GUIDE
for Health Care™ 

ACT TODAY!

Join the Green Guide Forum to interact with peers in your field. For more information and to sign up now, go to www.gghc.org.



bringing patients and staff together around a new shared vision of a true healing environment.