

A&E Design Evaluation

Evaluation of two proposed accident and emergency departments: Brent Emergency Care and Diagnostic Centre at Central Middlesex Hospital and an exemplar plan.

CLIENT NHS ESTATES
LOCATION ENGLAND
YEAR 2003

This report evaluates the design of two proposed A&E departments: Brent Emergency Care and Diagnostic Centre (BECaD) and an Exemplar plan developed as a guide for trusts undertaking new build schemes.

The Exemplar Plan and the A&E services within BECaD were evaluated using key performance indices identified in previous work by Intelligent Space, "The Impact of the Built Environment on Care within A&E". This was used to assess the following locations:

- Circulation areas
- Arrival and entrances
- Reception and waiting
- Triage and assessment
- Treatment rooms

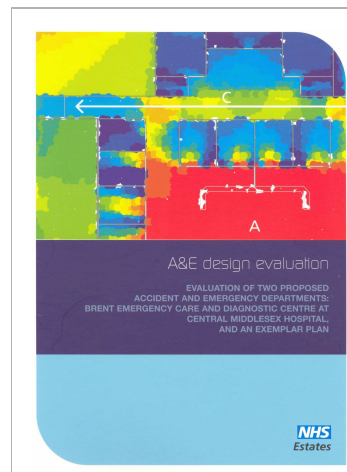
Comparison with observed use patterns in two existing A&E departments were used to assess occupancy and capacity issues both plans may experience.

THE IMPACT OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT ON CARE WITHIN A&E, NHS ESTATES 2002

In 2002 NHS Estates commissioned Intelligent Space to research the influence of building design on the care of patients in A&E departments. The findings of the research provide an evaluation of the key design issues faced in A&E departments and recommendations for future A&E design. The aims of the project were:

- Support guidance for the building of future departments;
- Provide measures to evaluate planned A&E departments
- Identify potential problems prior to the construction of new departments; and
- Identify methods for post occupancy evaluation of departments.

Eight existing A&E departments were analysed as a basis for the research. Comprehensive surveys were carried out in each department to identify current use patterns. In addition, computer modelling was used to benchmark design characteristics such as visibility and surveillance. The role of the building design in the delivery of care at each stage of the patient's journey was analysed.



RELATED WORK BY INTELLIGENT SPACE

- Design Guidance for Safer Hospitals for the Home Office, 2003. Analysis of building layout, crime and movement in Accident and Emergency departments.
- Support Services in A&E Departments for NHS Estates, 2003.
- Spatial Analysis of Critical Care Wards for NHS Estates, 2002. Analysis of surveillance levels in several ward layouts.