

## Hospital Department Adjacencies

### I. Standards for Location of Hospital Departments

Certain adjacencies are considered to be the standard of care in hospitals. For example, the following relationships are ideal and are found in most hospitals in the United States.

- Surgical suites are adjacent to recovery rooms
- Critical care beds are in close proximity to emergency departments
- Emergency departments are adjacent to radiology departments
- Inpatient beds are in close proximity to critical care beds
- Inpatient beds are in close proximity to surgical suites
- Inpatient beds are in close proximity to the Emergency Department

Neither the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board nor the Illinois Department of Public Health has established specific adjacency requirements for hospital departments. These locations are established based upon principles of patient safety, clinical functions and hospital efficiencies. Adjacency is a critical factor for enhancing patient safety, functionality and operating efficiencies.

The American Institute of Architects has published 2006 Guidelines for Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities. Hospitals under renovation or construction are expected to comply with these AIA guidelines. The Guidelines are also silent with respect to the exact distance between hospital departments; however the following standards are specified.

#### Environment of Care

*Section 2.1.2.2 Facility and service users (people) The physical environment shall support the facility and service users in their effort to administer the delivery of care model.*

*Section 2.1.2.3 Systems design. The physical environment shall support the facility and service users in their effort to administer the delivery of care model. The physical environment shall support organizational, technological, and building systems designed for the intended delivery of care model.*

*Section 2.1.2.4 Layout/operational planning. The layout and design of the physical environment shall enhance operational efficiencies and the satisfaction of patients or residents, families, and staff.*