TECHNICAL REFERENCE Facility design for polyclinics

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TECHNICAL REFERENCE

Facility design for polyclinics

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Foreword

This Technical Reference (TR) was prepared by the Working Group on Facility Design for Polyclinics set up by the Technical Committee on Architectural Works under the purview of the Building and Construction Standards Committee.

Primary care is the foundation of the healthcare system and associated healthcare services will continue to increase as we face an increasing prevalence of chronic diseases in tandem with an ageing population, changing lifestyles and longer life expectancies. While it is important for the elderly person to retain and maintain his or her functionality, mobility and quality of life, there is also a need to ensure that the working Singaporeans are managing good health with easy access to preventive health and health promotion services. As such, polyclinics which are defined as one-stop healthcare centres, independent of a hospital, will provide subsidised primary care which includes primary medical treatment and examination, preventive healthcare and health education for patients of the different age groups.

It is essential to project, plan and facilitate cost-effective and quality healthcare facilities to support Singapore's needs and strategies as set out in Healthcare 2020 Masterplan. Thus, there is a need to establish this Technical Reference on facility design for polyclinics that will benefit project consultants and healthcare operators during the planning of new polyclinics to enhance the delivery of healthcare services.

This TR is a provisional standard made available for application over a period of three years. The aim is to use the experience gained to update the TR so that it can be adopted as a Singapore Standard. Users of the TR are invited to provide feedback on its technical content, clarity and ease of use. Feedback can be submitted using the form provided in the TR. At the end of the three years, the TR will be reviewed, taking into account any feedback or other considerations, to further its development into a Singapore Standard if found suitable.

It is presupposed that in the course of their work, users will comply with all relevant regulatory and statutory requirements. Some examples of relevant regulations and acts are listed in the Bibliography. The Singapore Standards Council and Enterprise Singapore shall not be responsible for identifying all of such legal obligations.

In preparing this TR, reference was made to the following publications:

- 1. Building Control Regulation 27, Approved Document Acceptable Solutions
- Code of Practice on Environmental Health
- 3. Code of Practice for Fire Precautions in Buildings (Fire Code)
- 4. Code of Practice on Surface Water Drainage
- Code of Practice on Sewerage and Sanitary Work
- 6. Energy Conservation Act 2012 (No. 11 of 2012) and its Regulations
- Environmental Protection and Management Act (Cap. 94A) and its Regulations
- 8. Environmental Public Health Act (Cap. 95) and its Regulations
- 9. Environmental Public Health (Cooling Towers and Water Fountains) Regulations
- 10. Infectious Diseases Act (Cap. 137) (Part V) and its Regulations
- 11. Medicines Act (Cap. 176) and its Regulations

- 12. Private Hospitals and Medical Clinics Act (Cap. 248) and its Regulations
- 13. Radiation Protection Act (Cap 262) and its Regulations
- 14. Sewerage and Drainage Act (Cap. 294) and its Regulations
- 15. Workplace Safety and Health Act and its Workplace Safety and Health (General Provisions) Regulations
- 16. WSH Guidelines on Healthcare

Acknowledgement is made for the use of information from the above publications.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this TR may be the subject of patent rights. Enterprise Singapore shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all of such patent rights.

NOTE

- Singapore Standards (SSs) and Technical References (TRs) are reviewed periodically to keep abreast of technical changes, technological developments and industry practices. The changes are documented through the issue of either amendments or revisions. Where SSs are deemed to be stable, i.e. no foreseeable changes in them, they will be classified as "mature standards". Mature standards will not be subject to further review unless there are requests to review such standards.
- 2. An SS or TR is voluntary in nature except when it is made mandatory by a regulatory authority. It can also be cited in contracts making its application a business necessity. Users are advised to assess and determine whether the SS or TR is suitable for their intended use or purpose. If required, they should refer to the relevant professionals or experts for advice on the use of the document. Enterprise Singapore and the Singapore Standards Council shall not be liable for any damages whether directly or indirectly suffered by anyone or any organisation as a result of the use of any SS or TR. Although care has been taken to draft this standard, users are also advised to ensure that they apply the information after due diligence.
- 3. Compliance with a SS or TR does not exempt users from any legal obligations.

Facility design for polyclinics

0 Introduction

Historically, polyclinics have been vital in providing subsidised care for all Singaporeans. They started off as outpatient dispensaries, maternal and child health clinics, and were later amalgamated to provide a more comprehensive range of health services. Besides services provision, polyclinics are also key training centres for future family physicians as they provide a one-stop healthcare facility with an appropriate case mix of child, adult and elderly patients. The availability of clinical services such as diagnostics, allied health, etc. is also in line with the Family Medicine (FM) principles of providing comprehensive and coordinated care. Primary care, which includes polyclinics and general practitioners (GPs), continues to play a vital role in Singapore's healthcare system.

NOTE - For ease of reference, the term "facility" mentioned in this Technical Reference refers to the polyclinic.

1 Scope

1.1 This Technical Reference gives the provisions for the basic space and design planning of polyclinics in Singapore.

It covers the specific needs of related clinical facilities in a polyclinic to design consultants and personnel who may be involved in the design, construction, operation and maintenance of the polyclinic. It aims to enhance the quality of care by establishing standards to provide appropriate care delivery, with considerations for the safety, privacy and dignity of the facility's patients, staff and visitors.

1.2 Key planning unit (KPU) refers to a unit, grouping broadly related activities within a polyclinic. Functional planning unit (FPU) refers to the key functional components within a KPU that determine the size of the unit. The planning units that are covered in this Technical Reference are as follows:

a.	Key planning unit (KPU) Basic facilities	<u>Fun</u> - - -	ctional planning unit (FPU) Acute services Wellness module Chronic disease related services
b.	Support facilities	- -	Diagnostic module Pharmacy services
C.	Enhanced facilities	- -	Dental services Allied health services

- **1.3** Enhanced acute, and chronic disease related services, training, staff administration, staff amenities and ancillary facilities such as bin centres, carparks and landscape are not covered in this Technical Reference.
- **1.4** Refer to Annex A for the room area guide for polyclinics.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170 Ventilation of Health Care Facilities

ANSI/IESNA RP-29-06 Lighting for Hospitals and Healthcare Facilities

ASHRAE Standard 55 Thermal Environmental Conditions for Human Occupancy

ASHRAE Standard 62.1 Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality

Building and Construction Authority, Green Mark for Healthcare Facilities

CIBSE Guide 'D': Transportation Systems in Buildings

EN 779/ASHRAE 52.2 Indoor Air Quality

National Environment Agency (NEA), Technical Guidelines on Boundary Noise Limit for Air-Conditioning and Mechanical Ventilation Systems in Non-Industrial Buildings

PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency, Trade Effluent Discharge into Sewers – A Guidebook to Good Practices

SS 485	Specification for slip resistance classification of pedestrian surface materials
SS 514	Code of practice for office ergonomics
SS 530	Code of practice for energy efficiency standard for building services and equipment
SS 531	Code of practice for lighting of work places
SS 550	Code of practice for installation, operation and maintenance of electric passenger and goods lift
SS 553	Code of practice for air-conditioning and mechanical ventilation in buildings
SS 554	Code of practice for indoor air quality for air-conditioned buildings
SS 569	Code of practice for manual handling
SS 593	Code of practice for pollution control
SS 599	Guide for wayfinding signage in public areas
SS 603	Code of practice for hazardous waste management
SS 638	Code of practice for electrical installations (formerly CP 5)