

ACOUSTICS2008/3502 AIA/FGI interim acoustical guidelines for health care facilities

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Currently, noise is one of, if not the most prominent complaint of hospital care by patients and staff. In response to a growing concern for sound in hospitals and other types of healthcare facilities, the Facility Guidelines Institute (FGI) of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) has asked for assistance in incorporating acoustical guidelines into their Guidelines for the Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities. A group of 40 acoustical consultants and persons from the architectural and medical professions were assembled to develop the resulting 32-page document entitled "Interim Sound and Vibration Design Guidelines for Hospital and Healthcare Facilities." The document divides the variety of health care facility acoustical design issues into 6 sections as follows 1) site exterior noise, 2) interior finishes, 3) room noise levels, 4) sound isolation and speech privacy, 5) electroacoustics and alarms, and 6) building vibration. The presentation will provide an overview of the Interim Guides as they are expected to be adopted into the 2010 issue of the AIA/FGI Guidelines for the Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities.