



## Safe Patient Handling & Mobility: Emerging Topics and Trends

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Washington State Healthcare Safety Council  
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## Objectives

To provide a brief overview of some changes in the health care environment that may impact SPHM.

- Consideration of patient behaviors when patient handling
- Perceptions of staff on hospital room design
- Impact of hospital room design on patient well-being



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## Behavioral Continuum





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## SCL Behavioral Continuum for SPHM

- Developed by:  
Nancy McGann, System Manager of Ergonomics and Safe Patient Handling at Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System
- Purpose:  
Help staff understand the continuum of behavior disturbances that may affect the ability to move and handle patients




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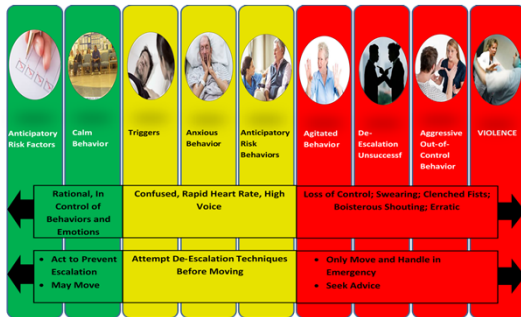
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## Patient Handling Behavioral Continuum




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## Recognizing Factors of the Behavioral Continuum




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## Impact of Hospital Patient Room Design on Staff





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### Hospital Patient Room Design

Lavender et al, 2015, Health Environments Research & Design Journal, Vol 8(4)

- Trends in patient room design:
  - Acuity-adaptable rooms – accommodate patients through varied levels of care
  - Bring hospital services to the patient – room as a work environment needs to accommodate more individuals performing more tasks
  - Population size – room accommodates larger patients and visitors
- Focus groups involving 23 occupational groups impact of room design during 4 phases


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### Identified Patient Room Design Issues

1) Entering Patient Room	2) Preparing for Activity
Narrow Doorways	Lack of space (to move)
Cluttered Entry ways	Time and effort to move things
Poor Location of PPE	Time and effort to work around things in the way
Poor location of hand sanitizer	Lack of space around the bed for staff and equipment
	Lack of horizontal work surface
	Competition for electrical outlets
3) Performing Activity	4) Leaving Patient Room
Limited bedside access limits pt mobility/handling (PCA)	Poor location of sinks, trash cans
Difficulty clearing path for pt ambulation (PT)	Inconsistent presence of wipes
Small bathroom space (PCA, OT)	
Insufficient access to both sides of bed (Sono, Transp)	


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## Impact of Hospital Patient Room Design on Patient Well-Being

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**Design Factors in Impacting Patient Well-Being**  
*Schreuder, Lebesque, Bottenheft. Health Environments Research & Design Journal 2016, Vol. 10(1).*

- Experiencing a shift in focus to patient-centered/people-centered care
- Patient perception of care as significant as outcomes of care
- Components of patient perception of care:
  - Reduction/elimination of medical symptoms
  - Patient experience
  - Patient satisfaction

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## Patient Room Characteristics that Influence Patients' Well Being

**Spatial Comfort**  
Comfort provided by the functional, personal, social aspects of the space  
Characteristics:  
• Interior Design  
• Views/Access to Nature

**Privacy**  
The need for one's territory and ability to shut out others' information  
Characteristics:  
• Number of Beds  
• Bed Partitions  
• Lines of Sight  
• Private Spaces for discussions

**Social Comfort**  
Emotional, informative support from friends, family, staff, other patients  
Characteristics:  
• Number of beds  
• Interior design  
• Presence of media

**Autonomy**  
Freedom to determine own actions and behaviors, experience control  
Characteristics:  
• Opening window  
• Adjusting temperature  
• Adjusting lighting  
• Closing Door  
• Shutting lines of sight

**Sensory Comfort**  
Comfort provided by the space on the senses  
Characteristics:  
• Natural lighting  
• Ventilation  
• Room scent  
• Temperature  
• Noise

**Safety & Security**  
Perception of ability to detect danger, take valuables, support in  
Characteristics:  
• Lighting  
• Lines of sight  
• Safe storage of belongings  
• Ability to call for support  
• Number of beds

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## Design Factors in Impacting Patient Satisfaction

MacAllister, Zimring, Ryherd. *Health Environments Research & Design Journal* 2016, Vol. 10 (1).

- Room handedness
  - Same handedness room configurations vs. mirror room configuration
  - Standardization of nursing workflow, processes
- Room layout
  - Location of hand-washing sinks
- Bed: location and orientation
- Room Location
  - Distance to nursing station



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