

NORTH ISLANDS HOSPITALS

WAYFINDING & SIGNAGE

An important aspect of the design of any new hospital facility is the attention given to the design of a complete hospital wayfinding system. This key component and first impression to patients, visitors and staff is the success of the hospital signage in providing a welcoming, friendly, professional and easy to navigate system.

With the recently completed Patient Care Centre (PCC) at the Royal Jubilee Hospital (RJH), VIHA has developed a wayfinding and signage program that is being used throughout the RJH site and recently at other VIHA hospital sites. It is this system that is required to be used for the proposed North Island Hospitals.

The wayfinding design for the new hospitals needs to have a strong “architecture” and to be current in its graphic design. Colours need to be carefully chosen and the size and location of signs need to be part of the overall design of the space in which the signs are located. Finishes and lettering materials need to be consistent with those used for the RJH PCC. Typical for these signs are aluminum, acrylic, vinyl and stainless steel materials.

VIHA wayfinding starts at the hospital site boundary with free standing signage located at each prominent site entry location. This is supplemented by similar free standing signage structures located to give overall direction within the hospital campus. These illuminated exterior signs also contain an overall hospital site map and should afford some weather protection for viewers.

VIHA has also adopted the use of banner signs at strategic landscaped locations to emphasize particular events i.e. Hospital Foundation fund raising campaigns.

Overall site parking signage is required to follow the signage design intent to provide consistency across the site.

Within the new hospitals, interior signage will also follow the design concepts developed for the RJH PCC. A variety of sign types are used. These include:

Hospital Directories – these are required at all entrances, major corridor junctions and such locations as elevator lobbies. For the main hospital lobby a digital interactive kiosk signage system is required.

Floor Directories – at all elevator lobbies.

Room Signage – room signage for administrative spaces require a pocket to insert specific information i.e. name of occupant. Room signage for utility rooms is of a different type, designed to be less evident than general room signage. Small door tag signage is also required on all door frames.

Patient Room Signage & Directories – patient rooms need to be designated with art images incorporated onto the room signs. Art images (local scenery) are used to designate patient care departments.

Directional Signage – these signs are either hanging signs from the ceiling or bulkhead mounted over doors.

Feature Signs – at various locations throughout the hospital, feature signs are required. These may include signage to locate the hospital information desk or, as at the RJH PCC, incorporated above seating in elevator lobbies.

Donor Wall – strategically located in the main hospital lobby is the need for a donor wall. The donor wall should be designed so that changes (i.e. additional donors) can be added to the wall in an economical and convenient way.

Site Signage



Building Directional



Site Banner



Building Identification

Interior Signage



Donor Wall



Information Panel



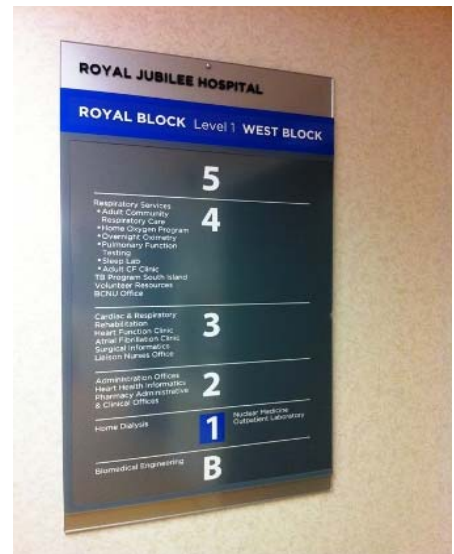
Overhead Directional - Suspended



Overhead Directional



Level Directory – Patient Care



Level Directory - Elevator



Building Directory



Floor Directional



Room Identification



Utility Room Identification



Patient Room



Bladesigns