



The Role of Textiles in Healthcare

Considered design choices play a key role in building or refurbishing a healthcare facility. Research has shown that a well-designed nurturing and therapeutic environment contributes greatly to how a patient and family perceive their quality of care and their overall experience.

Healthcare facilities that are designed in a less clinical way have better patient outcomes and recovery times, thereby reducing the patient's length of stay. Design positively affects staff satisfaction, thereby enabling the facility to attract and retain quality staff with an improvement in morale. Design can also reflect a sense of the facility's image, reinforcing its strategic goals and point of difference.

Healthcare furnishings provide the scope to achieve this. Textiles can also play a key role in creating a healing environment, adding colour and texture to areas that otherwise would look quite hard, cold and clinical.

Australian healthcare textile supplier Instyle offers a wide range of coordinating drapery textiles, upholstery vinyls, Cryptons, wallcoverings and acoustic solutions that reflect this design philosophy.

For designers and healthcare facilities that prefer a more customised solution, Instyle's design studio can also work closely with clients to best interpret their vision.

Instyle's experienced designers are problem solvers combining design expertise with technical knowledge to create functional yet individual solutions for specific projects. Carol Debono, a textile designer with Instyle, says "The client's brief can be met with a new design, a re-colouration of one of our existing healthcare products or fulfil a more complex technical brief of creating designs for specific budgets, weights, widths, finishes and performance requirements."

A recent project wanted to include a connection to the local area and the surrounding landscape into the design to define specific areas. By customising the colours in the privacy curtaining to coordinate with the company's extensive range of vinyl and Crypton upholstery,

Instyle was able to support the designer's vision of natural themes throughout the facility.

In the case of Royal North Shore Hospital, the designer wanted the privacy curtains to echo the colours used in the wayfinding graphics and external façade of the building. Debono says "we developed a construction that allowed the same intensity of colour to be seen on both the face and back of the privacy fabric. The result was a fully reversible dynamic and colourful textile that became the focal point of the room."

A solution can also be derived to meet established design standards. "We have customised widths ranging from 186cm for medical centres that require shorter curtaining to 280cm for a full hospital length curtain with no track, particularly suitable for mental health areas."

With most healthcare furnishings refreshed every 7-10 years, Instyle can design a highly durable product that has a long lasting design aesthetic.

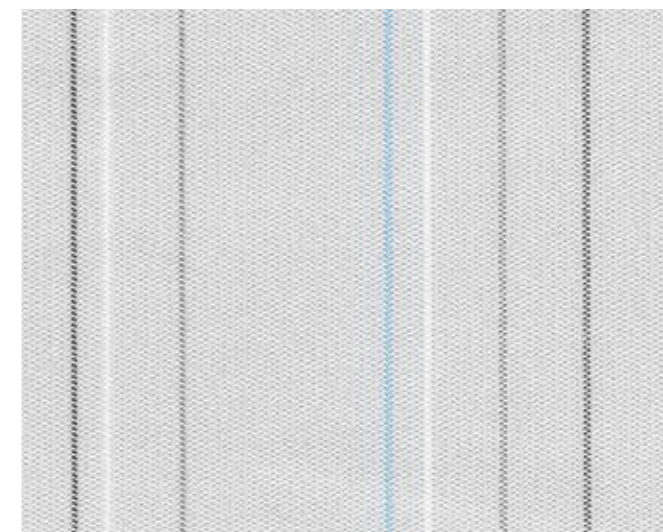
Instyle has developed numerous custom designs including Prince of Wales Private, La Trobe, Queen Elizabeth and Greenslopes hospitals to name a few.

Instyle's design studio can provide computer aided simulations and samples to assist the designer and healthcare facility in their decision making. Through its strong relationships with leading textiles mills in Australia and overseas, Instyle can organise prototype lengths and production. The result is a consistent and high quality product to create a healing environment.

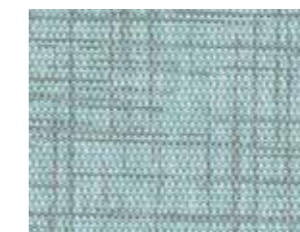
TEXTILES FOR HEALING ENVIRONMENTS

A comprehensive collection of textiles + vinyls for patient care

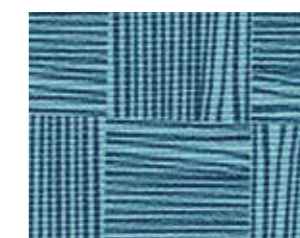
- Curtain, Privacy Screen + Bedspread Textiles
- Crypton® Textiles
- High Performance Vinyls
- High Performance Wallcoverings
- Custom Design



ONLINE Surf - curtain, privacy screen, bedspread



TEX Glass - vinyl



HATCH Thought - vinyl



SAIGON Aqua - wallcovering



REFLECT Wave - curtain, privacy screen, bedspread



BUZZ Electric - vinyl



AVENGER Indigo - Crypton®



SKETCH Freestyle - curtain, privacy screen, bedspread



TOBAGO Horizon - wallcovering



MAVERICK Paradise - Crypton®



EDITION Relax - curtain, privacy screen, bedspread



SONIC Reflection - Crypton®

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