

Ethno care; Filling the gap between health and culture

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Background and objective: The architecture of hospitals should be based on human and his needs to support the patient's spiritual values in their healing journey. The combination of humanity and art can improve the patient's health, their family and medical staff. Effects of art may be due to psychological responses to colors and shapes. Strange and unfamiliar environments in hospitals can create mental stress. So, we decided to survey the importance of taking culture into the design of hospitals and study the gap between them and examine the link between environment, culture and lifestyle of people and factors affecting quality of health care provision and provide suggestions for a new style of hospitals and home care.

Method: In this library-style study keywords including ethno care, nature, hospital, environmental design and health, cultural aspects of hospital design and some other similar articles were searched at SCOPUS, PubMed, and Google scholar databases by the end of May 2021.

Findings: Results of this study indicates that the patterns of caregiving are different between ethno-cultural groups of patients. Patients' familiarity with hospital environment affects their mental health and well-being. Patients like to share their wishes and opinions to staff members. Also, with regard to culture of each region, people have a certain sense to symbols and colors. The effect of indigenous medicines and functional foods, according to people's interests and medical advice, can help treat patients and improve their health. Recalling memories by patients due to the integration of environment and culture can play effective role in mental relaxation. Lack of proper communication between patient and medical staff due to lack of language fluency is another problem. Management of this model can also be beneficial in order to create a sense of self-confidence in native inhabitants.

Conclusions: We assume that using ethnic cultural elements in hospitals can improve health and wellbeing.

Keywords: Ethno Care, Environmental design, Health, nature, Hospital

Biography

Sheida Kaviani has her bachelor's in nursing. She has finished her academic education at Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Iran. As a young researcher she has passion in mental health and wellbeing. She has an oral presentation and two abstracts presented in different international congresses.

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