



Ng Teng Fong General Hospital and Jurong Community Hospital, Jurong, Singapore

Project completion date: end of 2014

Client: Jurong Health Services

Cost: SGD \$700m

Number of beds: 986 (General Hospital 700, Community Hospital 286)

Floor area: 169,000sqm

Architect: CPG (in collaboration with HOK and Studio 505)

Civil and Structural Engineer: CPG

is one of the key external drivers of growth of the healthcare sectors in many southeast Asian countries like Thailand, Singapore and India," says Broadway Malyan's Ian Simpson. According to the Singapore Tourism Board, in 2010 Singapore experienced a 19% increase in tourism receipts on medical expenses, to approximately SGD\$940m. Thailand is in the midst of a five-year plan to double revenue from foreign patients by 2014. Malaysia's Ministry of Health set up the Malaysia Healthcare Travel Council in 2009 to develop and promote the healthcare travel industry. Critics say that medical tourism creates dual standards of care, with medical staff attracted from the public to the private sector by better working environments, and often better pay.

Competition for overseas patients means that hospitality-type environments and VIP suites are

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more common: Malaysia's Sime Darby Medical Centre Park City, designed by CPG and opening in 2013, goes one better with a "VVIP" ward. HOK's Parkway Novena Hospital (see case study), designed in conjunction with Singapore firm CIAP, is an all-single-suite facility that has its sights firmly set on Singapore's high-earners and medical tourists. "I've never worked on anything as opulent," says Kerry Clifford, associate and senior medical planner at HOK. "In the VIP suites and super-suites, there is no indication at all that these are patient rooms." Rooms are same handed, and canted so that the patient's bed is angled towards floor-to-ceiling windows, with their head near the door so medical staff can check their welfare without coming in to disturb them. "There's no clutter in the corridors, or around the ORs, and very few alcoves: everything is nicely tucked away because Parkway wanted to have the appearance of a hotel," adds Clifford.

Although the expertise, will and funding undoubtedly exists to build world-class hospitals, there is a much broader problem of a lack of staff

Singapore's next major public hospital project is actually a general and community hospital side-by-side, but with some integrated services such as parking, catering, imaging, laundry and pharmacy. "The idea is to create a more efficient bed-management system," says CPG's Lim Lip Chuan. "The acute hospital will have patients stay three to five days, and should the patient need further care in the step-down environment, they can be pushed on to the community hospital. There is one admission, and one discharge." The General Hospital will give "a window for every patient": six-bed, fan-shaped wards with views of greenery and outdoor sky gardens will, according to Jurong Health Services CEO Foo Hee Jug, "improve ventilation and maximise natural lighting, improve infection control, create more privacy and comfort for patients and make a conducive working environment for staff. This is especially important in the subsidised wards which rely on natural ventilation."



VK Group's proposed Binh Chanh Pediatric Hospital for Ho Chi Minh City