

Headline:	A C-class ward bed with a view		
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Description:	JGH's design - by Singapore's CPG, American firm HOK and Australia's Studio 505 - is inspired by the interior of Virgin airlines' planes, where the seats are positioned 'to afford some level of privacy and ensure everyone is close to a window', said Mr Foo Hee Jug, chief executive of Jurong Health Services, which will operate JGH. The proposed design of the C-class ward, which will be discussed with the Health Ministry and hospital staff, was unveiled yesterday at Alexandra Hospital. While patients in the A-class, or private room wards, will hardly see a difference, those in the subsidised wards will each get their own window.		

# A C-class ward bed with a view

Design of new Jurong hospital puts each patient near a window

By JOAN CHEW

A WINDOW by every bed and space for visitors.

When Jurong General Hospital (JGH) opens in 2014, all wards - from A-class to C-class - could be built in a folding-fan design allowing for better ventilation, a clearer view of the lush greenery outside and greater privacy.

The conventional C-class ward in government hospitals has the windows located at the far end of a room shared by six patients.

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ecutive of Jurong Health Services, which will operate JGH.

The proposed design of the C-class ward, which will be discussed with the Health Ministry and hospital staff, was unveiled yesterday at Alexandra Hospital. While patients in the A-class, or private room wards, will hardly see a difference, those in the subsidised wards will each get their own window.

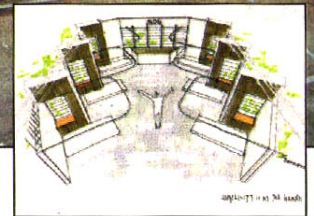
Ms Kuttiammal Sundarasan, director of nursing at JGH, said the design of the B-class and C-class wards will make the environment more hygienic for patients, who are no longer side by side, and will also provide more space for staff to work with their supply trolleys.

She said: "It can be quite unpleasant when fellow patients cough and vomit right next to you. Also, patients do not always like to come face-to-face with other sick people." The design improves ventilation and maximises natural light. This makes infection control more effective and enhances patient comfort and recovery, she added.

A one-day recruitment drive for ancillary positions like patient service associ-



JGH human resources staff Poh See Yin (left), 33, and Agnes Wong, 24, in a mock-up of the hospital's C-class ward. ST PHOTO: NG SOR LUAN



ates and patient information assistants was also held yesterday at Alexandra Hospital, attracting 50 job seekers.

Since recruitment for JGH started at the end of 2008, 700 positions have been filled, of which a third are administrative and ancillary staff.

JGH, part of the Jurong Lakeside Masterplan, will be a 700-bed acute hospital twinned with a 200-bed community hospital to provide holistic integrated care for residents in the west.

The team from Jurong Health Services is currently preparing to assume full management of Alexandra Hospital (AH) in August, from which they will grow their base. Most of the current AH team will be transferred to the new Khoo Teck Puat Hospital when it opens in Septem-

ber this year.

JGH has partnered the Employment and Employability Institute, a skills-based institute, to recruit another 300 workers by July. The target is to recruit 1,500 staff by next year.

Mr Foo said: "We need to hire staff from across the job spectrum, including nurses and allied health professionals like pharmacists."

JGH has hired about 150 foreign nurses from China, India and the Philippines.

Mr Foo added that it was also "building its pipeline of local nurses" by offering scholarships and sponsorships and working with institutes to train mid-career people interested in a nursing career.

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