

Kensington & Chelsea Primary Care Trust St Charles Community Hospital Renal Unit



Case Study



Background

The St Charles Community involves the refurbishment of all three floors in the Eastern pavilion. Built in the 1870s the hospital is a traditional Victorian building which is Grade II listed.

The brief from the PCT is to transform this building into a modern healthcare facility, and deliver multi-healthcare services to the local community, which include:

- 66 bed Renal Unit
- 3 GP primary care practises
- Outpatients and physiotherapy
- X-Ray and dentistry
- Urgent care and Diagnostics
- Community service and long term conditions department

The renal department originally occupied one floor in one wing of the western pavilion and the newer infill building between the central block and the western pavilion. It operated in very cramped and outdated conditions with facilities that did not meet current health requirements.

The Project

The new 66 bed renal unit will be one of the largest in the country. Interserve, working with its PSCMs, has developed a new concept for the ward layout by designing a central spine arrangement within the footprint of the original Nightingale Ward, which provides the following benefits:

- Centralised containment for services - reducing costs and improving access for future maintenance.
- Centralised nurse stations built into the service spine give ward nurses better views of the ward - improving operations and monitoring of patients.
- Renal chairs positioned centrally allow patient views to the outside environment - improving patient comfort.

Successful development of this initiative design solution has been achieved by close consultation with the end users and clinical staff.

Innovation

Incorporated into the unit is comfort cooling and ventilation by means of 'state of the art' active chilled beam technology.

This chilled beam system uses cooled surface area to achieve cooling in the unit without the need to use low chilled water temperatures. Other benefits include:

- Low noise levels as there are no moving parts
- Very little maintenance
- Smaller duct sizes

This means that the chilled beams can accelerate installation times, save energy and reduce maintenance, thereby dramatically cutting the whole life cost of an air conditioning system for the PCT.

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