

**FALL BACK - SPRING FORWARD**

Spring is in the air and so are doctors' visits and the sniffles! Patients often form their first impression of a medical practice in the waiting room, or reception area. Stained furniture, old magazines strewn about, rude front-office staff—such experiences have a huge impact on how patients perceive the quality of their care. We have all walked into a medical facility and been irked by the ambience. The responsibility is on the designer as a health care designer to look at how to create an environment that will improve outcomes. In healthcare facilities the priorities and approach when considering an interior, is from the point of view of functionality, cleanability and infection control, An experienced designer will ensure these priorities are incorporated, but are supplemented by other significant requisites. Details and a homier atmosphere that allow patients to sit apart from others if they choose, health care interior designers will arrange waiting room furniture in separated small groups. Design a modular grid system to allow for "plug and play" development of spaces and room types. Art reflecting the natural world is intended to calm patients and remind them of happier moments in their lives. Provide connections and access to nature and natural elements. The type and intensity of lighting has an impact on a patient's mood and well-being and should incorporate controlled, natural, skylights. Consider sight lines into and out of rooms for visual privacy. Use state-of-the-art technologies to improve infrastructure for telemedicine, and improve visual and audio quality of video conferencing by using proper lighting, finish materials, and equipment. At H3Design we are constantly checking on trends, changes and technology to ensure the healthcare industry are current and are influencing the direction of the industry as we head into the future.

**FROM THE PRESIDENT**

*H3Design has a reputation for designing award winning facilities in the area of healthcare. Healthcare requires definite techniques to ensure that each facility is able to achieve its maximum efficiency, while still pleasing the customer, client and staff. Effective designers are able to complete a total look and often create a harmonious look throughout the facility. We invite you to view our portfolio on our website and see state of the art facilities we have had the honor of designing.*

*Sincerely,*

*Diana Castro*

**Diana Castro ASID, IIDA, LEED AP**  
 President and Owner

**PROJECT SPOTLIGHT**



*The H3Design team would like to wish everyone a Happy St. Patrick's day!*