AcuityBrands

Summer of Light: Illuminating Healthcare Spaces Webinar Series

5-Week Series of 60-minute AIA accredited presentations for a total of 5 CEU credits – coming this June.

Register Now

Presented by:

Tommy Nichols, LC, EDAC
Business Development Director for Healthcare at Acuity Brands

Kandy Welch
Senior Healthcare Solutions Manager

Kyle Gotliebson, IES
Director of Total Solutions

June 1st: Illuminating Evidence-Based Lighting Design for Healthcare | 1 AIA HSW

Course Description: This course provides an in-depth exploration of evidence-based design (EBD) and its pivotal role in shaping healthcare environments to enhance patient care, contribute to caregiver effectiveness, and foster overall well-being. Participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of how EBD principles can be applied to create spaces that are informed by empirical research and best practices. Attendees will learn about the latest research findings that support the integration of design elements with clinical outcomes. Topics covered will include the impact of physical environment on patient recovery, staff efficiency, and overall healthcare delivery.

Learning Objectives:

1. Introduction to Evidence-Based Design: Understanding the fundamentals of EBD, including its history, development, and core principles.
2. Interdisciplinary Collaboration: Exploring the importance of collaboration among healthcare professionals, architects, and designers to achieve optimal design outcomes.
3. Design Elements: Identifying critical design components such as lighting, acoustics, layout, and controls that contribute to creating therapeutic environments.
4. Future Trends: Investigating emerging trends and innovations in healthcare design that are poised to shape the future of the industry.

Presented by: Tommy Nichols, LC, EDAC

June 8th: Lighting Design Considerations for the Healing Environment: A Prescription for Healthcare | 1 AIA HSW

Course Description: Healthcare spaces have unique lighting needs, both for patients and healthcare professionals. This presentation will discuss various areas within a healthcare setting, both inpatient and outpatient facilities, and review the lighting needs, design considerations and techniques, and current trends as they relate to both the patient and the caretaker.

Learning Objectives:

1. Define a health care space and the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES) healthcare classification system.
2. Identify the functional objectives of healthcare lighting and the lighting design associated with each type of space.
3. Explain the emotional aspects of lighting as they pertain to improved patient health and outcomes.
4. Correlate the types of rooms found in health care facilities and the recommended lighting practices and standards for those rooms.
5. Classify and apply practical design considerations for lighting in healthcare settings.

Presented by: Kandy Welch

June 15th: Biophilic design in Healthcare Environments | 1 AIA HSW

Course Description: This one-hour continuing education course explores the transformative power of biophilic design in healthcare environments, with a focus on lighting strategies that enhance wellness, recovery, and staff performance. Participants will gain insight into how the integration of daylighting, artificial skylights, interior and exterior gardens, and circadian lighting systems can create healing-centered spaces.
The course reviews peer-reviewed research, evidence-based case studies from leading healthcare institutions, and emerging technologies that simulate nature in environments to enhance the patient experience, and caregiver effectiveness.

Learning Objectives:

1. Define biophilic design and identify key principles relevant to healthcare environments.
2. Evaluate the impact of natural and artificial lighting strategies on patient outcomes and staff well-being.
3. Analyze recent case studies showcasing successful integration of biophilic lighting and other design methods.
4. Apply design principles involving artificial skylights, daylighting, and gardens in real-world healthcare settings.

Presented by: Tommy Nichols, LC, EDAC

June 22nd: The Empathetic Environment: How Lighting Shapes Behavioral Health Outcomes | 1 AIA HSW

Course Description: This comprehensive course explores the critical intersection of safety, therapy, and technology in behavioral health lighting design. We will examine how evidence-based design principles can be applied to create environments that support patient healing while ensuring the highest standards of safety and durability. Participants will gain a deep understanding of the regulatory landscape, including FGI Guidelines and Joint Commission standards, and learn how to select appropriate lighting solutions that balance ligature-resistant requirements with residential-style aesthetics to reduce institutionalization and improve outcomes.

Learning Objectives:

1. **Regulatory Compliance** - Identify and interpret key regulatory standards including FGI Guidelines, The Joint Commission (TJC), and NYS-OMH safety requirements.
2. **Evidence-Based Design -** Apply evidence-based design principles to create therapeutic environments that support patient healing and reduce stress.
3. **Safety & Durability -** Evaluate lighting fixtures for anti-ligature features, impact resistance (IK ratings), and ingress protection (IP ratings).
4. **Therapeutic Controls -** Implement advanced lighting controls, including tunable white and warm dimming, to support circadian rhythms and patient autonomy.

Presented by: Kandy Welch

June 29th: Sequences and Savings: Lighting Controls for Healthcare Facilities | 1 AIA HSW

Course Description: Healthcare facilities must support far more than visibility—it influences patient comfort, staff efficiency, code compliance, and long-term performance. This one-hour continuing education course explores how low-voltage lighting controls have evolved to meet the specialized demands of healthcare environments. Participants will gain insight into the requirements that drive lighting control sequences and design decisions, and how modern systems deliver advanced functionality without exceeding budget constraints. The course will also highlight both construction and operational cost savings, including energy reduction and improved staff efficiency. By connecting technical solutions to real-world healthcare challenges, this course reframes lighting controls as a strategic asset—supporting effective care, responsible budgets, and better outcomes throughout the life of the facility.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understand healthcare-specific requirements that shape lighting control sequences and system design.
2. Explore how low-voltage lighting controls have evolved to address the unique demands of healthcare environments.
3. Evaluate construction cost savings made possible by lighting control solutions that deliver advanced functionality within budget constraints.
4. Assess operational cost savings—including energy reduction and staff efficiency—enabled by low-voltage lighting control systems.

Presented by: Kyle Gotliebson, IES