

Emergency Department Design: A Practical Guide to Planning for the Future, Second Edition

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Emergency Department Design: A Practical Guide to Planning for the Future, Second Edition*American College of Emergency Physicians*

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In the second edition of *Emergency Department Design: A Practical Guide to Planning for the Future*, architect Jon Huddy builds on his seminal work in his first edition to create a text that simply must accompany every emergency physician and planner contemplating a new emergency department (ED) design or remodel. Health care is changing, and nowhere is this more evident than in the complex environment of the ED. There are myriad competing interests and pressures that influence our ability to care for patients. Any new ED design must take advantage of proven methodologies and advances in technology that allow safe, effective, and efficient care.

The second edition of Huddy's text provides a playbook that accomplishes this task. It is written with both the first-time ED leader and the seasoned veteran of many ED design projects in mind. It provides insights that guide and instruct the reader on everything from the development of the ED project leadership team through project completion. The text is unique in that it communicates with the insights of an emergency physician yet with the precision and experience of a veteran architect. It defines expectations, terms, and jargon that are part of the language of architecture but not that of most emergency physicians. This makes the text both educational and readable while also providing step-by-step instruction.

The text is remarkably comprehensive yet maintains a logical and sequential approach that is easy to follow. It covers a range of key ideas and concepts that must be considered, including creation of an internal ED team, the hiring of a team of outside professionals (architects,

engineers, and builders), and the appropriate project scope in lieu of budgetary and spatial constraints. It also includes crucial conceptual ideas such as lean patient operations, surge capacity, and accounting for advancements in technology that will affect both immediate and future operations. After each chapter, the text provides a key considerations work sheet that breaks down each chapter's fundamental concepts into task lists that guide the process. In addition, the text addresses the unique needs of specialized departments that focus on populations such as geriatrics, pediatrics, and trauma, along with nontraditional departments that are freestanding and not directly attached to a larger hospital. In the final section of the text, Huddy features 27 case studies that illustrate how modern design concepts have been applied to ED projects of various size, complexity, and scope. Each case study is briefly presented as a problem or situation followed by a discussion of the way each scenario was addressed and lessons learned. They offer specific, practical guidance on issues that are sure to be encountered in other projects.

The text is written with the wisdom and insight of a grizzled veteran emergency physician but is surprisingly detailed in its understanding of health care transformation and the need to plan for realities that simply did not exist when the first edition was published in 2002. Huddy distinctly capitalizes on his body of ED design experience, which now includes 325 projects. He is to be congratulated because he has successfully built on the first edition and created a resource that is simply a must-have for every key ED leader contemplating a new ED or redesign of an existing department.

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