



A PLEASANT HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENT **A HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTRE**

1- Introduction

Healthcare has always been the prime responsibility of a democratic administration. In many cases, it is considered to be a criterion of success or failure of the local government.

In the last 20 years, Egypt has launched an ambitious project towards improving healthcare in terms of building a number of hospitals such as the new Kasr Al-Ainy, Nasser Institute and lately the Children's hospital.

The classical challenge in hospital design is all about flow; the logistical movement of staff, patients and the materials necessary to sustain 24hrs hospital service.

However, hospitals are no longer those dull repetitive grey spaces. They are becoming more cheerful, colourful and spacious. A new set of design criteria has emerged, and has managed to change the meaning, the use, the experience, and the image of hospitals around the world.

2- Raised Issues and Challenges

These newly emergent themes and trends may roughly be identified as; Sustainability (environmental, economical & socio/cultural), Flexibility, Expandability, Pleasant social environment, Easy-flow, Way-finding, Natural light-infused, Soft-palette interiors, and Public space for interaction (piazza, spine, atrium, gallery ...etc.).

Although these trends and themes have been adopted worldwide, they are still lacking in the Egyptian design of hospitals. They have emerged in contexts that are quite different from the Egyptian one in terms of culture, economy, physical environments, and state of technology. The challenge of this project may be viewed in terms of providing an Egyptian interpretation of those trends and provide a balance between demands of the new hospital design and local culture and context and economy.

3- Objectives of the Project

- To get to identify, understand and creatively utilize these themes and trends in a manner that is appropriate to the Egyptian context.
- To design a hospital and medical centre that sets an exemplar of excellence for practice in Egypt, and that reaches out to all members of the community.



4- Project Components (Preliminary)

The following represents a broad guideline for the proposed programme. Students have to develop their own detailed programme according to their design concept and statement.

- Main entrance Piazza and entrance hall with gift shop(s)
- Lecture Theater for 500 person.
- Bed house of variable sizes for 800-1200 patients.
- Specialized departments which include:
 - Operations & Intensive care.
 - Emergency/morgue/mosque
 - Laboratories
 - Radiology
 - Physiotherapy and gym
- Outpatient clinic and medical centre to provide medical advice and attention to varying groups of people.
- Library and research facilities
- Administration
- Cafeteria/restaurant
- Facilities and services: Blood bank - pharmacy - laundry - public toilets - photocopying - parking

5- Site Selection (refer to site report)

Students are required to choose one of the proposed sites which reflect different urban and environmental contexts, they may also propose any other sites. The built area should not exceed 40% of site area.