



Changhua Christian Hospital Featured in London's "Healing Spaces" Exhibition

The Florence Nightingale Museum, situated along the South Bank of the River Thames in London, launched its annual special exhibition, "Healing Spaces," on November 18, 2025. The exhibition focuses on the impact of healthcare environment design on treatment outcomes, exploring how spatial planning serves as an integral part of the healing process.

Among numerous international submissions, case studies from Taiwan's Changhua Christian Hospital (CCH) and Taichung Tzu Chi Hospital stood out. Both were selected to be displayed alongside the work of global medical design experts in London for a year-long exhibition.

At the opening ceremony, CCH invited several key mission partners to attend, including Rev. Graham McGeoch and Rev. Amelia Koh-Butler from the Council for World Mission (CWM), as well as Rev. Chen Yu-fen, a missionary from the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan (PCT) stationed in the UK.

Rev. McGeoch and Rev. Koh-Butler both visited CCH in 2023; being familiar with the hospital's history, they expressed high praise for the institution. During the opening, McGeoch noted that

CCH's participation in this exhibition is a significant achievement, bringing Taiwan's specialized experience to the international stage for global exchange.

Bridging Past and Present: Exploring Healing Spaces

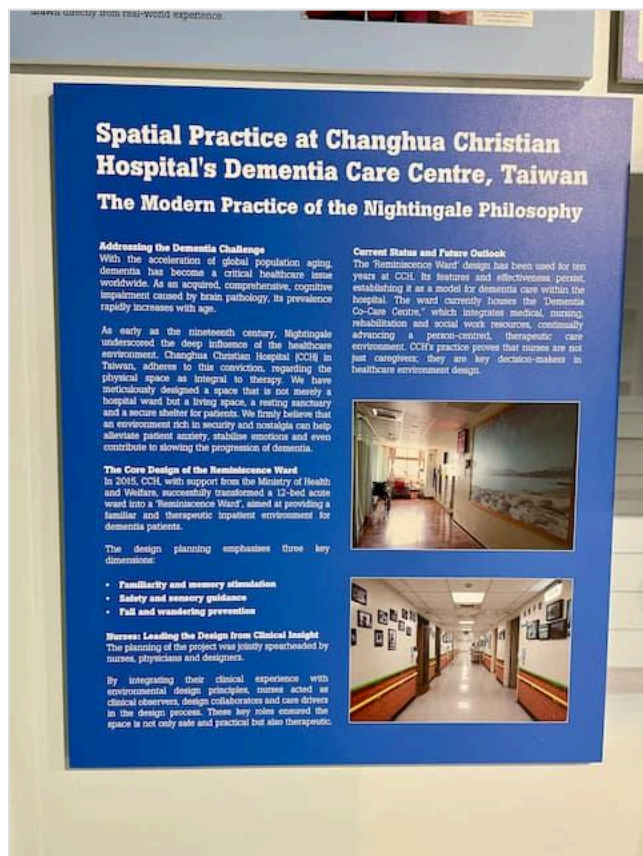


The Florence Nightingale Museum does more than commemorate the life of the "Lady with the Lamp"; it serves as an important platform for exploring the history of nursing and contemporary healthcare issues. The museum houses a diverse collection of precious documents detailing Nightingale's life from an early age, including documents from when she responded to a calling from God and dedicated herself to nursing. It also chronicles her struggles regarding women's rights to education, academic development, and challenges within workplace structures. Regarding her contributions during the Crimean War, the museum specifically highlights how she utilized logical thinking and statistics to systematically record wounded soldiers' data and improve sanitary conditions. Echoing this scientific spirit, the museum plans to host an online seminar on statistics at the end of January 2026 to discuss the application of data in modern medical care.

In terms of regular operations, the museum receives many school visits. During term time, the museum schedules daily sessions for school groups. Five days a week, staff dressed in

Victorian nurse attire bring Nightingale's story to life for students from over ten schools, guiding them through the history of nursing development. The current special exhibition, "Healing Spaces," adopts a "Case Study" model, curated by the museum's team in collaboration with industry experts. The central theme explores decisive details in healthcare environment design that are often overlooked by the general public. The content not only traces back to the hospital architecture theories proposed by Nightingale in the 19th century but also discusses the role played by frontline nursing staff in modern spatial design.

The exhibition is divided into four sections: "A Historical Overview of Healthcare Spaces," which presents the evolution from Ancient Roman military hospitals and hospitals of the Islamic world to the transformation of medieval monasteries into simple rural infirmaries; a dedicated zone for "Environmental Theory," which analyzes how Nightingale integrated her practical experiences at Scutari Hospital to formulate her theories, illustrating their profound influence on ventilation, lighting, and circulation design in subsequent hospital architecture; "Contemporary Design," which showcases global trends in medical architecture; and "Design Your Own Healing Space," which focuses on the child's perspective to present ideal therapeutic environments from their point of view.



The case studies selected from Taiwan for this exhibition present spatial solutions specifically addressing the challenges of an aging society and dementia care.

The theme for Changhua Christian Hospital (CCH) is the "Dementia Co-Care Center at CCH Ward 83." Facing the global trend of an aging population and the increasing number of dementia patients, the CCH team applied Nightingale's principle that "the medical space is part of the treatment" to reposition the ward's function. Their goal is to create a space that balances daily functionality, quality of rest, and a sense of sanctuary. The design incorporates "Reminiscence Therapy" elements, placing familiar scenes and objects within the ward environment to foster a sense of security. According to the CCH case study, this environmental design helps reduce patient anxiety, stabilize their psychological state, and delay the progression of dementia by evoking early memories.

Taichung Tzu Chi Hospital proposed the "5H Concept" as its design core: Honour, Health, Heart, Happiness, and Home. In the exhibition, Tzu Chi demonstrates how these values are used to construct barrier-free spaces, allowing elderly patients with limited mobility to maintain their dignity and self-worth while receiving care. This approach embodies a holistic, human-centered design philosophy.

Mapping the Future: An Exploration of Global Case Studies



The exhibition also features the "New Hospital Programme," a joint project between the UK Government and the National Health Service (NHS). As a major medical infrastructure project,

its goal is to drive the modernization of existing hospitals by introducing new building materials and natural design elements, while emphasizing the integration of digital systems to save labor and time. By synthesizing the perspectives of doctors, nurses, and designers, the programme presents a vision known as "Hospital 2.0." Specific objectives include implementing a 100% single-room configuration and fully adopting smart technologies to accelerate admission processes, reduce the risk of hospital-acquired infections, and create a more supportive and efficient working environment for medical staff.

The curatorial team includes Laura Sharpe, Manager of the Florence Nightingale Museum, alongside museum staff and two experts from the Nursing Institute for Healthcare Design (NIHD) in the US: Dr. Terri Zborowski and Debbie Gregory. Both traveled to London for the opening event, bringing their expertise in translating clinical nursing knowledge into a design language and using education and advocacy to improve future healthcare environmental planning.

On the opening evening, Károlyné Boros, a head nurse from Hungary, attended with her daughter. Boros shared her experience of remodeling a rehabilitation center with EU funding, where she designed a gym and training kitchen and used plants and art to improve the atmosphere. Her daughter, who works for LEGO, expressed strong support for the approach used by Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) in the UK, which uses building blocks to alleviate anxiety in pediatric patients.

The guide for the "Nightingale Walk" stated that information from this exhibition will be incorporated into future guided tours. Sharpe noted that while the museum received case studies from all over the world, physical space constraints prevented them from displaying every entry; consequently, the museum is planning to expand the content into an online exhibition. To help visiting schoolchildren understand medical design, the museum has set up an interactive area featuring a toy model hospital ward at a child-friendly height, as well as building materials like bricks and stainless steel for children to touch and experience.

The exhibition concludes with works by Japanese architecture students, who envisioned future medical environments through 12 different themes. At the exit, an interactive Q&A area invites visitors to reflect on and answer the question: "What does your ideal healing space look like?"