

Just the Facts

THE WYNN HOSPITAL

Each week, “Just the Facts” provides information about a key aspect of The Wynn Hospital being built by Mohawk Valley Health System (MVHS). It is designed to keep our medical staff, employees and volunteers updated and to share with family, friends and neighbors so we keep our community informed about how we’re transforming healthcare in our region.



TOPIC FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2022:

Can you tell me more about the outdoor area of the Behavioral Health Unit in the Wynn Hospital?

The Behavioral Health Unit in the Wynn Hospital will provide a comfortable and therapeutic environment as patients will have access to large windows providing daylight and views to outside as well as an outdoor recreational area helping to create a more homelike feel.

In keeping with the design elements of the Wynn Hospital, recognizing natural light and fresh air are good for healing, this location allows access to the outdoors. Because its located on the ninth floor, its ceilings could be higher, which enables a safe, outdoor environment with walls that are too high to scale. The outdoor area will include 20-foot-high walls, safety glass, fixed furnishings and security cameras. Patients in the outdoor area will always be accompanied by MVHS staff.

In order to be allowed in the outdoor area, patients must first qualify that they are not at risk of harm to themselves or others. Some organizations have staff escort patients outside the building which has its own set of risks. Many facilities have gone the way we are going with the Wynn Hospital by having the outdoor space incorporated as part of the unit. Prior to finalizing this design for the Wynn Hospital, a team from MVHS visited a facility with this concept to understand how they managed the safety and well-being of patients and staff and incorporated their best practices for patient safety.

