Architecture has an influence on the mental and physical wellness of human beings. In healthcare architecture, this aspect of building environment is very important. As E.R.C.M. Huisman from faculty of health care of Utrecht University of Applied Sciences points out in his article, building environment plays an important role for the patient’s health and well-being. All of the human activities can be largely influenced by the ambiance around them. Its main-ly achieved indirectly by exerting influence on the patients, the caretakers and the families through building’s interiors, lighting, color and texture of building materials and furniture settings. It affects our physical, emotional and spiritual health on various levels through various means.

My graduation project is rehabilitation clinic design in the city of Rotterdam. The site is located between two green zones: the museum park on the east side and the Westersingel on the west side. There is a height difference of four meters between the two green zones. A pump station needs to be preserved. The challenge of this project is to create architecture spaces that facilitate the healing process within the limitations of the complex program of rehabilitation clinic.

The issues I want to research is the integration of the notion of waiting and other public functions to create a better environment for the healing process. During the analysis of the program and mass study of building, I start to pose questions about the existing situation. Firstly the question is about how to make better connection of the two green zones. Secondly it is about integrating the public spaces into an efficient space configuration to facilitate the process of healing.

After the research I did about the surroundings, I concluded that the primary issue of design is not to create a self-sustained healing machine but a building that can make best use of the surrounding resources. Therefore I choose to decentralize the community spaces (living rooms, waiting room, etc.) which is better for the utilization of the surrounding. From the patient’s perspective, it is necessary to provide the patients a home-feeling environment during their stay and different types of public spaces to meet the need of different requirements by different age-groups and different health conditions of the patients.
Rehabilitation Clinic design

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