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Project Feature: Tree of Life

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The 103,000-square-foot MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper in Camden, N.J., features a custom-designed Tree of Life installation that fills the wall of the double-height lobby. Designed by architecture firm Francis Cauffman, the Tree of Life creates a welcoming and calming atmosphere for cancer patients who are undergoing treatment. It's an abstract representation of a tree made out of resin cubes; the branches and leaves stand out against a background of soothing, gently shifting colors.

Francis Cauffman integrated the artwork into the lobby to support the medical treatments taking place in the hospital. It is based on studies that representational art, along with images or views of nature, have a positive impact on patient outcomes. It has also been proven that color therapy can affect mood—cool colors are calming, while warm colors are uplifting.



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