

PHOTO TOUR: MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper

December 12, 2013 by posted by Kristin D. Zeil

f in t g p + | REPRINTS



The MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper is a 103,000-square-foot, four-story, \$100 million treatment center designed by **Francis Cauffman**. The project team also included owner's representative **Stantec** and contractor **P. Agnes**; the facility opened in October 2013.

A collaboration between The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and Camden-based Cooper University Health Care, the new center brings multiple progressive outpatient cancer treatment services under one roof, including medical oncology, radiation oncology, surgical oncology, gynecologic oncology, and urology.

During the design process, the design team met with past patients and caregivers to discuss their experiences and their preferences. Patients expressed the desire to control their treatment environment when they received infusion, so designers created both shared and private infusion spaces. At the patients' request, designers chose heated massage chairs to increase comfort during infusion. Each treatment room includes plenty of space for family and friends to sit beside patients and provide emotional support.

The building is surrounded by lush plantings to create a feeling of serenity, which continues throughout landscaped walking paths and a courtyard with flowers. A rooftop tranquility garden, accessed from a second-floor waiting room, includes seating areas for patients and families.

Inside the center, the Tree of Life feature wall welcomes visitors to the lobby. Situated behind a staircase, this technological representation of a tree is made of branches and resin cube leaves that gently change color.



The focal point of the lobby, the Tree of Life is a dramatic two-story sculptural representation. It's made of acrylic panels of different sizes and thicknesses that are evenly backlit with color-changing LED lights. It provides a backdrop for the lobby stairway, which is made of blackened steel and point-supported glass. Photo: ©Chris Cooper
Image 2 of 5



Located on the second floor, this waiting room overlooks the two-story lobby and the Tree of Life. It provides direct access to the rooftop healing garden, which can be seen here through the windows against the far wall. The rooftop garden also offers a comfortable place for family and visitors to relax, with views of downtown Philadelphia. Photo: ©Chris Cooper
Image 3 of 5



The cancer center houses two concrete linear accelerator vaults on the first floor, which support the radiation oncology program. Color-changing LEDs create a soothing environment for patients as they receive treatment. Light-colored, wood-look flooring contrasts with dark-colored, wood-look millwork to finish the interior. Decorative sliding acrylic panels conceal treatment accessories from patient view. Photo: ©Chris Cooper
Image 5 of 5



The MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper is situated in a previously developed urban site, a former parking lot. The building's south facade, shown here, combines metal panels, natural stone, and high-performing insulated glass. The main entry is accessed via a shared vehicular drive around a landscaped plaza. A two-story section with a raised healing garden on its canopy roof creates a transition between the four-story building and the entry plaza. Photo: ©Chris Cooper
Image 1 of 5



Located on the second floor, this waiting room overlooks the two-story lobby and the Tree of Life. It provides direct access to the rooftop healing garden, which can be seen here through the windows against the far wall. The rooftop garden also offers a comfortable place for family and visitors to relax, with views of downtown Philadelphia. Photo: ©Chris Cooper
Image 3 of 5