











SONATA

A space can convey caring. It can show respect. It can foster communication. Environments dedicated to the care of cancer patients are called to extend beyond convention. They're called to help with healing. Sonata responds.

In many conventional oncology environments, patients cannot control their surroundings. Family and friends are unable to be near their loved ones. Clinicians contend with obstacles to their work. In times of vulnerability, these settings are a source of stress, not strength. We can do better.







UNDERSTAND





OBSERVE





SYNTHESIZE

USER-CENTERED DESIGN

To create environments that improve the cancer care experience, Nurture embarks on an extensive journey of research and design.

UNDERSTAND What is cancer? How is it treated? How are cancer treatment centers meeting real needs? In what areas are improvements needed most? The Nurture team probed secondary research to find out what's on the minds of experts in oncology. We learned a number of things, especially about the most common cancer treatments: chemotherapy, radiation therapy and immunotherapy.

OBSERVE Nurture conducted ethnographic research in nine oncology centers in five cities. We studied individual activities and how people interact. Through interviews and special sensory design sessions, we gathered ideas from everyone involved in cancer healing. We saw patients either isolated in private rooms or lined up in large, open treatment areas with no personal space. We saw caregivers struggling to provide patient privacy in very public settings; in other situations, they were too isolated to oversee more than one patient at a time. Partners in care were often an afterthought, lacking accommodations and unsure how to support their patient without adding stress.

SYNTHESIZE Nurture brought key ideas and issues together to form 12 insights. The top three include: 1. transitions—provide spaces that respond to varying, changing patient needs for privacy, companionship, education and treatment; 2. we are family—by accommodating the needs of partners in care to be included, relax, talk or connect to the outside world, we help them soothe rather than stress their patient; 3. details, details—cancer treatment can be arduous, so minding the details (accessibility to power outlets, personal storage, medical supplies, waste receptacles) matters.

REALIZE Nurture partnered with architects, industrial designers and researchers to realize design solutions. With insights as our guide, the partners held several design charrettes exploring product concepts and applications.

PROTOTYPE Nurture built full-scale models of design concepts and invited oncologists, a pharmacist, nurses and patients to walk through and provide feedback. We moved validated concepts into product development, affirming this work with A&D professionals. Today's Nurture oncology solutions are the product of this user-centered research.

MEASURE Nurture's commitment to user-centered solutions isn't over. Through observation and interview, we continue to follow up with patients, families and practitioners who use our products. We're always on the lookout for what's working, what's not and what's next. And, our environments are made to flex as healthcare needs and processes change over time.







PROTOTYPE





MEASURE



SONATA

CONNECTION

Sonata supports the intimate relationship between patients, partners in care and caregivers. Each plays an important role in the healing process. We can enhance their connection with settings that offer control and customization for unique needs.





Clear sight lines allow caregivers to keep an eye on the patients in their charge.





A semi-enclosed landscape offers privacy without isolation.



Varied seating and thoughtfully placed modules provide a spot to gather for private conversations.



SONATA

COMFORT

Sonata prioritizes patient comfort, both physical and emotional. A space to put personal things. A soft place to recline. The comfort of friends and family nearby. Sonata makes sure to offer access to little things that mean a lot.



Patients can choose privacy or opt for interaction, thanks to modules of varied height.







A wardrobe stows belongings in sight so they won't be forgotten.



Patients and partners in care swing out a monitor to enjoy entertainment of their choosing rather than gaze across the room at a shared television set.





A storage compartment in the island's upper shelf makes room for a book, magazine or drink—all within arm's reach. The compartment's outlet offers to recharge an MP3 player, cell phone or PDA.



CONVENIENCE

Sonata makes practical sense in a critical care environment. Caregivers have what they need, where they need it. Sonata adapts to demands that change around the clock and year to year.



As caregivers move from patient to patient, they find technology and medical supplies within reach at each bay, requiring fewer trips to the centralized nurses station.



Sliding door makes waste disposal discrete; the bin can be accessed hands-free.



A standing-height nurses server stores medical supplies in drawers; a surface pulls out when caregivers are prepping treatment materials.



Caregiver monitors can be placed atop the nurses server with adjacent power access.



Sonata modules reconfigure with ease as bay sizes and care delivery processes change over time.



Resilient by design, Sonata withstands the test of continual use over time. Top options include durable solid surface, laminate, or thermoform spill top.





COMPONENTS

Sonata's modular design allows the components to work together or individually to create an environment that supports varying work processes and space requirements. The base module is secured to the floor and allows you to mix and match components to your specifications.



BASE

- Common, shared by modules
- Utility chase, entry from the floor or wall
- Seal application to the floor
- System unifier
- 18" depth
- 12", 24", 36", 42", 48", 60", 66", 72" widths



NURSES SERVER

- Worksurface and medical storage
- Pull-out prep surface
- Drawer storage
- 39" standing height
- 24" width



ISLAND

- Hands-free access to waste disposal; conceals waste from sight
- Power chase
- Open storage
- Technology access on the patient side
- 36" height
- 48" width



MEDIA UNIT

- Personal television cabinet
- Open storage on lower shelf
- 36" height
- 24" width



BENCH

- Additional seating in the bay
- Storage under hinged cushion top
- 21" height
- 36" width



WARDROBE

- Personal storage within the bay
- Coat hook
- Lower storage area
- 60" height
- 12" width

