



Autex Acoustics® in Healthcare Environments

● Quietspace® Panels, in
Acoustic Timber™ and custom print

Monash Medical Centre



Acoustics in healthcare

Autex Acoustic® products are thoughtfully engineered for use across a wide range of healthcare environments — from hospitals and primary care facilities to dental clinics, aged care, and non-invasive medical imaging suites.

In these settings, not only is cleanliness paramount but also considerations of acoustic hygiene. Research consistently shows that excessive noise in healthcare environments contributes to stress, impedes communication, and can even hinder patient recovery (reference 3).

A well-considered acoustic design not only enhances comfort and privacy but also supports improved clinical outcomes and staff wellbeing.

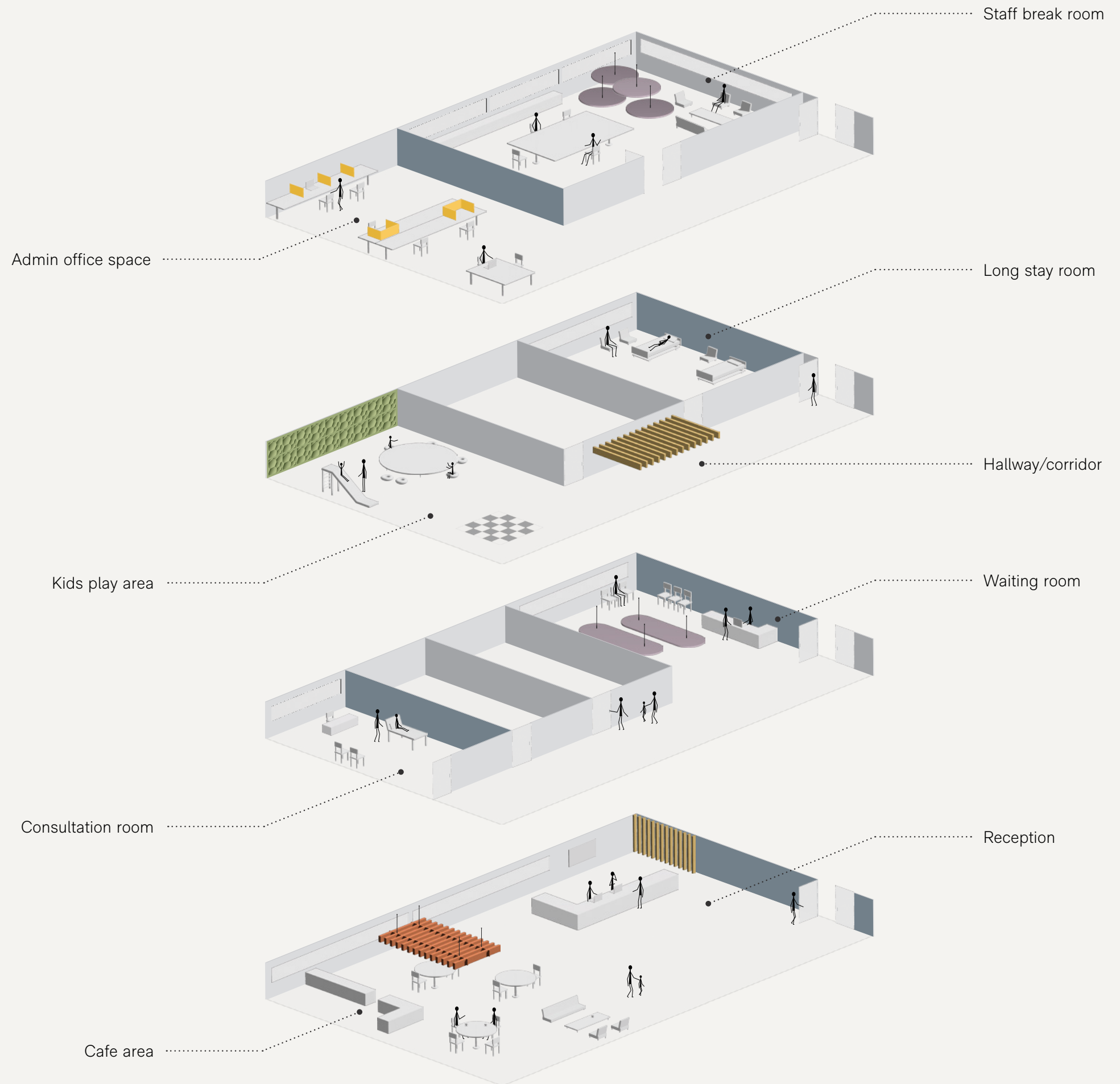
This brochure offers practical guidance on specifying Autex Acoustics products in healthcare settings, informed by relevant standards and risk assessments, to help create spaces that are both safe and sound.

Product applications

Autex Acoustics products boast a range of features and benefits making them well-suited to various healthcare settings. Designed for both ceiling and wall applications, our products add function and aesthetic-appeal to hallways and circulation spaces, waiting rooms, reception, children play areas, consulting rooms, and more.

Features and benefits include:

- Superior Sound Absorption: Creating peaceful environments contributing to patient comfort during recovery and treatment
- High Durability: Highly durable, long-term performance, essential for healthcare environments
- Health and Safety: Made from non-toxic, non-allergenic materials, making them safe for use around patients and staff, and helping to maintain a healthy indoor environment
- Group 1 Fire Rated: Optimal performance for spaces with where mobility may be restricted
- Cleanable: Compatible with a range common cleaning methods and products used in the maintenance of healthcare environments
- Designed with circularity in mind



Assessing interior finishes for healthcare settings

Typical risk categories	Low	Office administration areas
	Medium	Day activity areas
		Rehabilitation Areas, including Hydrotherapy
		Outpatient Clinics, including consulting rooms, ambulatory care
		Residential accommodation
		Offices in patient clinical areas
		Treatment rooms where invasive procedures do not take place X-ray (non-invasive)/MRI/CT rooms
		Pathology and other laboratories
		General Pharmacy
	Main Foyer	
High	General wards	
	Level 1 nurseries	
	Outpatient clinics and treatment rooms	
	Pharmacy clean areas	
Very high / extreme	Operating theatres	
	Emergency departments	
	Labour and delivery wards	
	Day procedure areas	
	Invasive medical imaging procedural areas	
	Intensive care units	
	Clinical areas with patients in isolation or who are immunosuppressed	
Risk category for environmental cleaning	Level two and three nurseries	
	Examples: These examples are inclusive of any adjoining area, for example, bathrooms, corridors, storerooms, meeting rooms, offices, pan rooms, and staff lounges.	

The following tables show common healthcare risk categories and the minimum cleaning standards required for each. The suitability of an interior finish depends on the specific area and location, as well as its compatibility with the recommended cleaning methods and frequency outlined in the tables below.

Recommended cleaning cycle and method	Element	Risk category				Cleaning method
		Low risk	Medium risk	High risk	Very high risk/ extreme risk	
	Ceilings and walls not accessible typically above 2 metres Reference 2	Spot clean monthly and wash every three years	Spot clean weekly and wash yearly	Spot clean daily and wash yearly		Refer to Autex Acoustics care and maintenance guidelines for cleaning for the specific procedures
	Walls	Spot clean weekly and full clean yearly		Spot clean daily and dust weekly and full clean yearly		

Table 1: Table adapted from: Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control Table A2.1. Risk categories for environmental cleaning.

Table 2: Table adapted from: Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control Table A2.2. Recommended cleaning frequency and 1 National Health Service National Specifications for Cleanliness [423] Appendix 2: Elements, performance parameters and cleaning frequencies. Approval of the product for the application must be obtained by the appropriate person or authority prior to purchase and installation.

General cleaning and maintenance

In healthcare settings where cleanliness and hygiene are critical, Autex Acoustics products are able to be maintained using routine cleaning practices without compromising on appearance or acoustic performance.

General guidance:

Frequently touched surfaces can be cleaned with a detergent solution. Public health experts advise cleaning interior surfaces with a detergent and water solution to physically remove dirt, grime, and pathogens, then using disinfectant chemicals to kill the remaining germs on the surface.

The following disinfectants have been tested to confirm compatibility and assess adverse reactions. No discolouration, or degradation was visible.

Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide 0.5%

Hypochlorous Acid 0.05%

Sodium hypochlorite solution (0.1%)

Our products have been independently tested to ISO 18184, which measures antiviral performance on textiles. When treated with a 1000ppm (0.1%) sodium hypochlorite solution, Autex Acoustics polyester acoustic products achieved an Mv value of 3.13. An Mv value above 3 shows excellent antiviral effectiveness, eliminating 99.9% of infectious viruses.

For detailed information refer to the relevant [Autex cleaning and maintenance guide](#).



● Groove™, in Flatiron



● Cube™, in custom print



● Cube™, in custom print
Frontier™ Beam 100, in Savoye

● Cube™, in
Opera

● Cube™, in
Parthenon

References

1. Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare (2019) - National Health
2. Medical Research Council (NHMRC 3.1.3 Routine management of the physical environment.
3. Wysocki AB: Advances in Wound care: The Journal for Prevention and Healing, 01 Jan 1996, 9(1):35-39



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Autex Acoustics® products are carbon neutral and contribute to NABERS, WELL, LEED, Green Star, and BREEAM certification. Contact your Autex Acoustics specification manager to hear how we can support your low carbon goals.

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