

SHIRLEY RYAN CASE STUDY

REHABILITATION INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

RIC SATELLITE PATIENT CARE NURSE STATION

RIC SKY LOBBY LIGHT FIXTURE

ABILITY LAB CUSTOM EQUIPMENT

PI WORKSTATION

dTank



PROJECT BRIEF

dTank was chosen to create a series of custom pieces for the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago alongside Clive Wilkinson Architects. dTank's scope for the project spans from custom light structures to think pods the patients will be interacting with day to day. Overall the project has more than 20 pieces of custom designed furniture and interactive medical equipment supplied by our furniture design firm. Every piece incorporates variety in design elements to defy healthcare environment norms and redefine the specifications of healing furniture. See a complete case study of our pieces including fabrication, form, and function [here](#).



BACKGROUND

Designed by HDR | Gensler in association with Clive Wilkinson Architects, the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago was transformed into the AbilityLab; A 27-story, 1.2-million-square-foot facility that gives patients 24/7 access to the brightest minds, the latest technology, and ergonomic furniture fabricated for research and recovery. The team was assembled for its interrelated skills, leveraging HDR's healthcare know-how, Gensler's high-rise and workplace expertise, and Wilkinson's user experience savvy. dTank joined the team to provide the custom furniture needed for such an intricate interior. This project aimed to ultimately redesign the way healthcare approaches interiors, healing spaces, and the furniture.

STRATEGY

The first inclination was to design something universal, but we realized the real world is not like that. There are pieces to this environment that are doing two to three things at once. They are very flexible interiors that allow healing while also reflecting the real world. Bright colors are used through out as a way to inspire and communicate with the patients.

Research

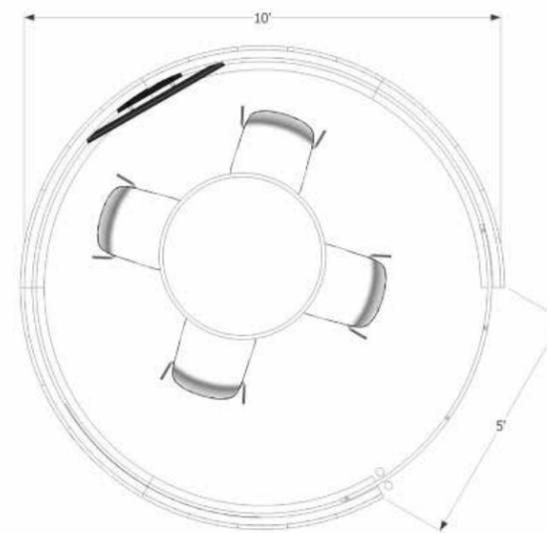
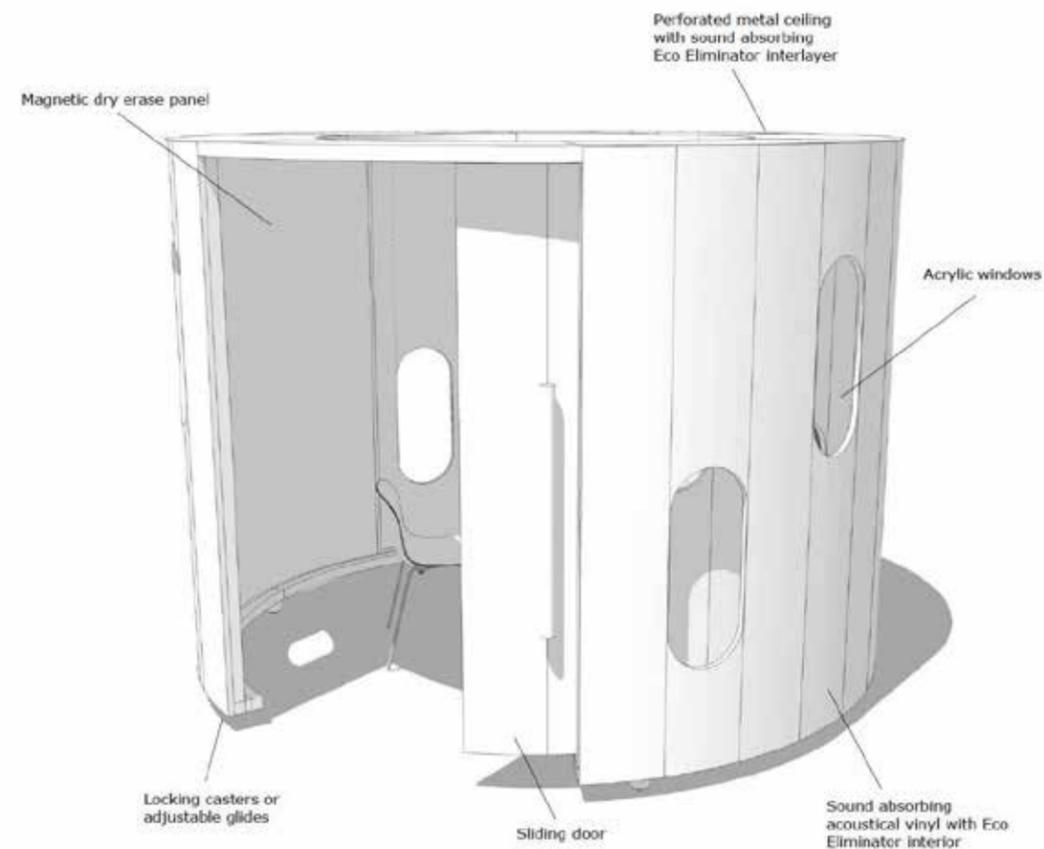
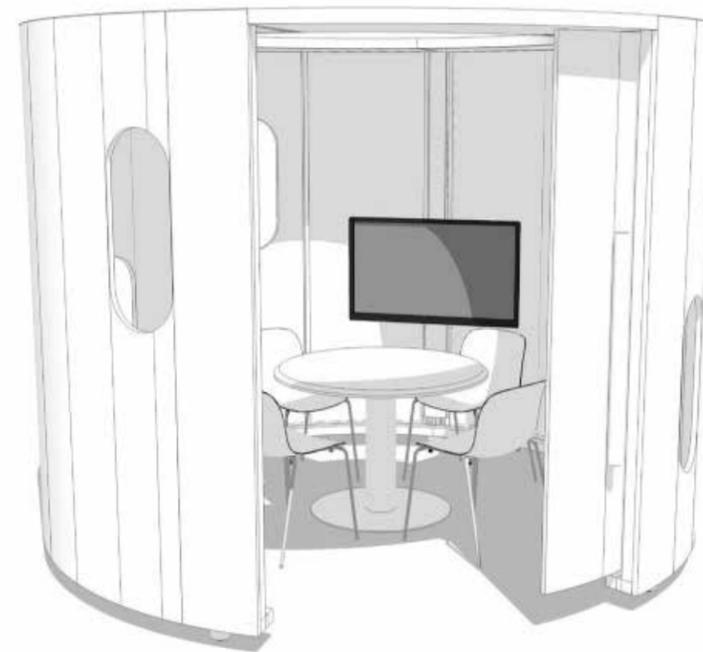
The organization wanted its new building to facilitate translational medicine, a practice in which professionals discover and apply research findings in real time.

DESIGN SOLUTION

Curved edges and surfaces create what Wilkinson calls "frictionless" spaces. Each lab, located on a separate floor, targets specific therapies: thinking and talking, walking, arms and hands, strength and endurance, and pediatrics. The custom furniture solutions include storage pieces, workstations, phone booths, meeting pods, freestanding screens, and benches. Custom medical equipment consists of activity tables, mat tables, and training stairs.

TENT POD PHONE BOOTH

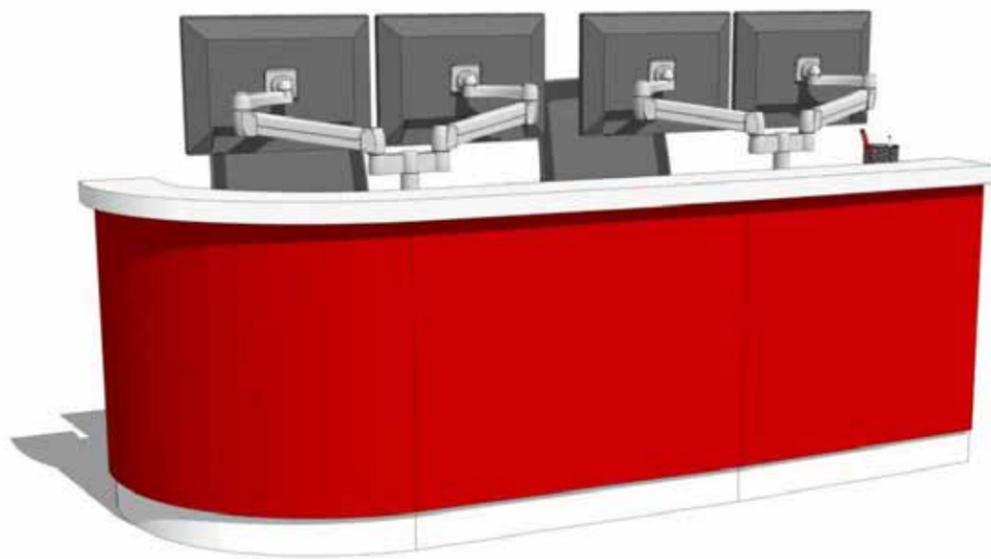
Think Pod: Designed as a conference room for researchers and doctors to meet with an open roof, magnetic dry erase boards, and sound absorbent vinyl interiors for acoustic clarity. The pods are portable and highly functional with electrical outlets and monitor access.





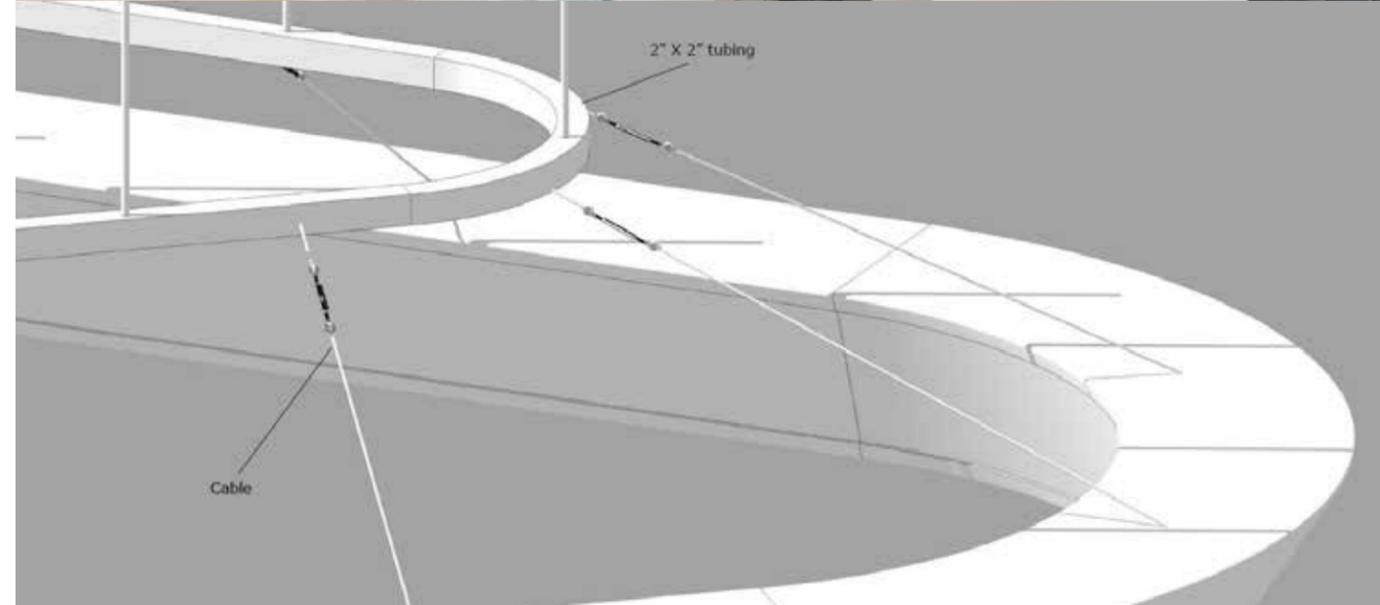
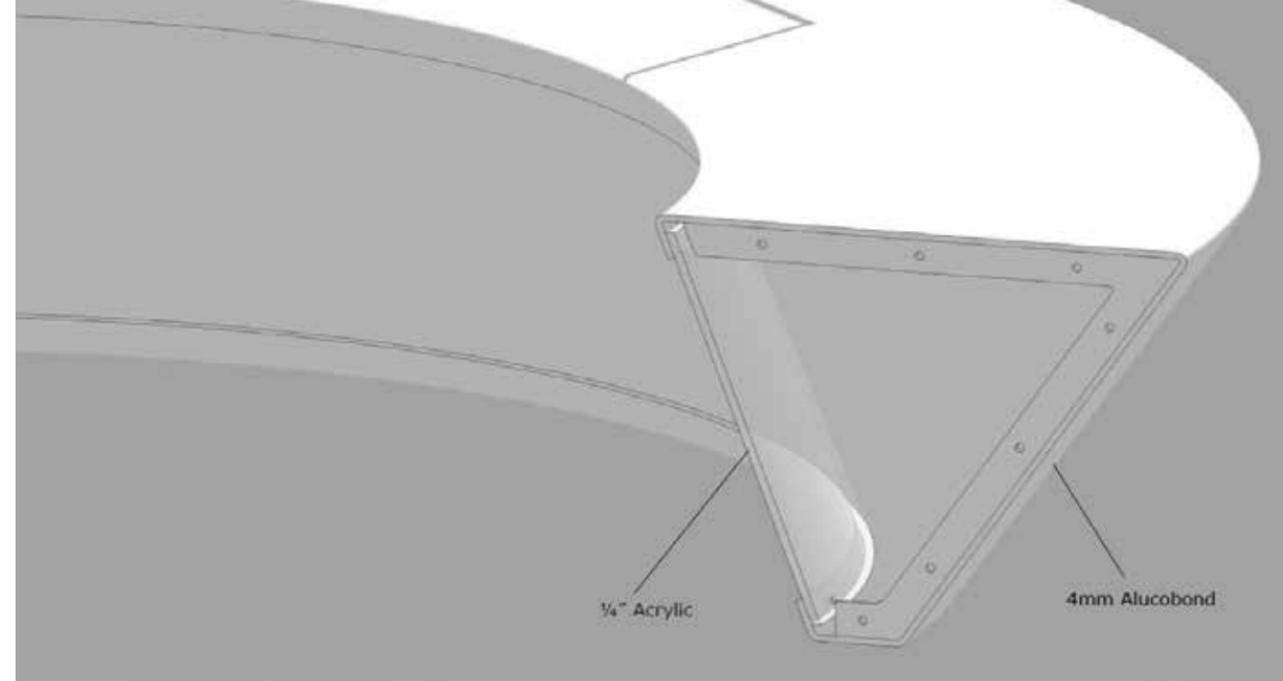
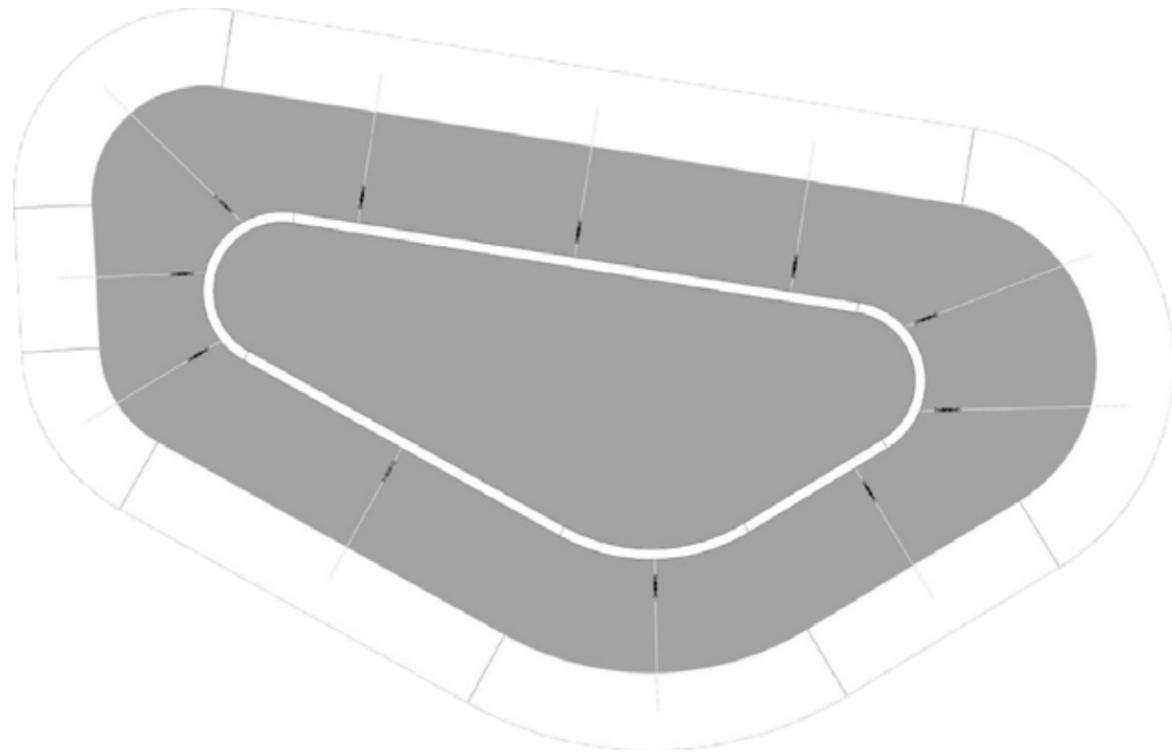
RIC SATELLITE PATIENT CARE NURSE STATION

Each nursing station is equipped with electrical outlets, monitor arms, and electrical access panels for a completely conflict free area. The corian glacier white toe kick and countertop brings a sleek and contrasted appearance, creating a "frictionless" appearance. Each level is color coded with its own bright warm hue. Nursing stations are placed strategically around every floor to optimize communication.



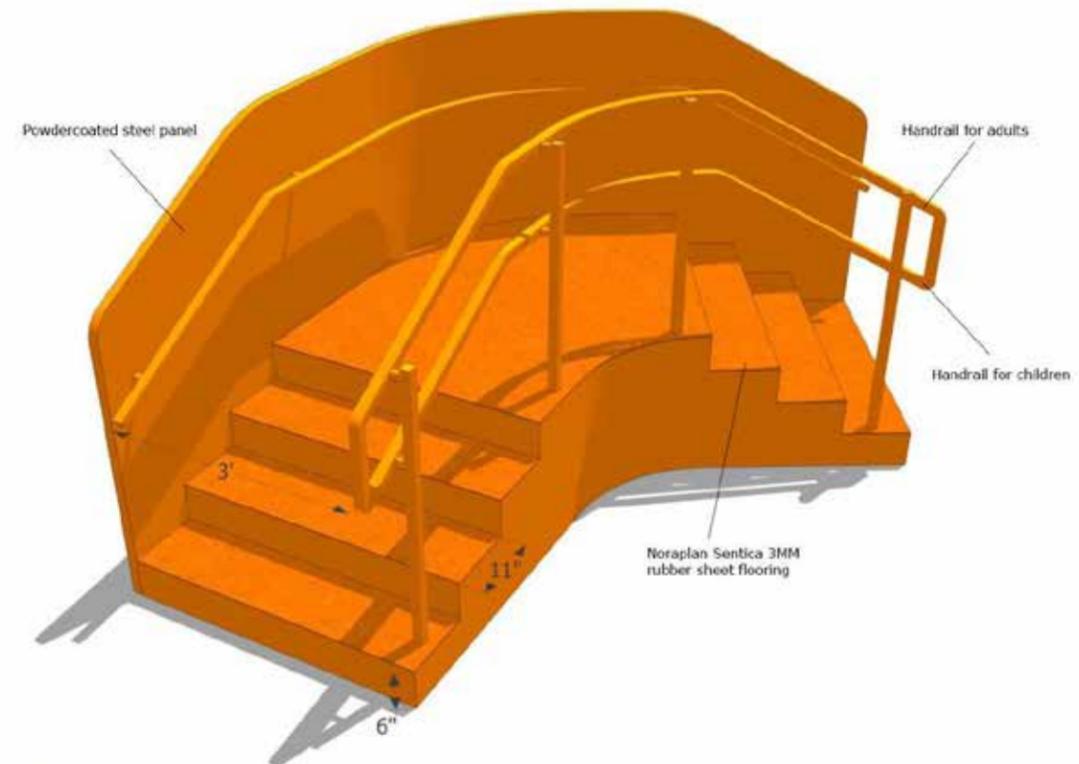
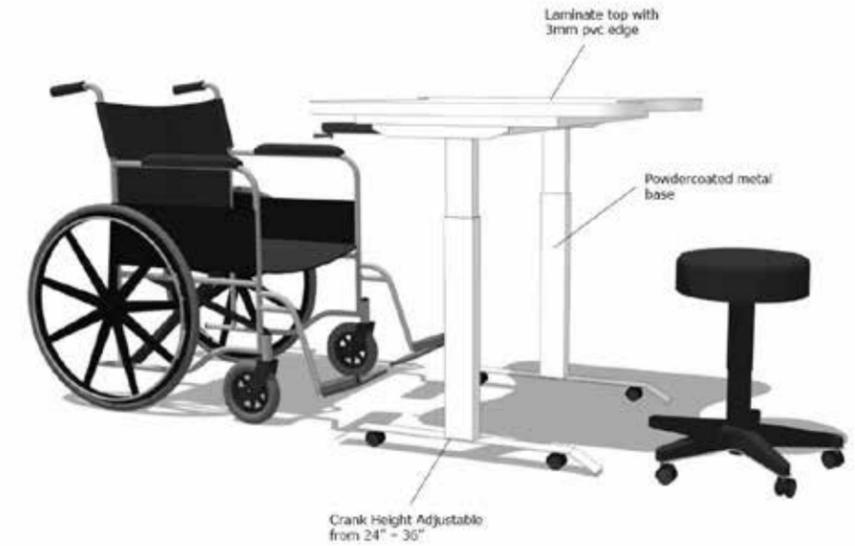
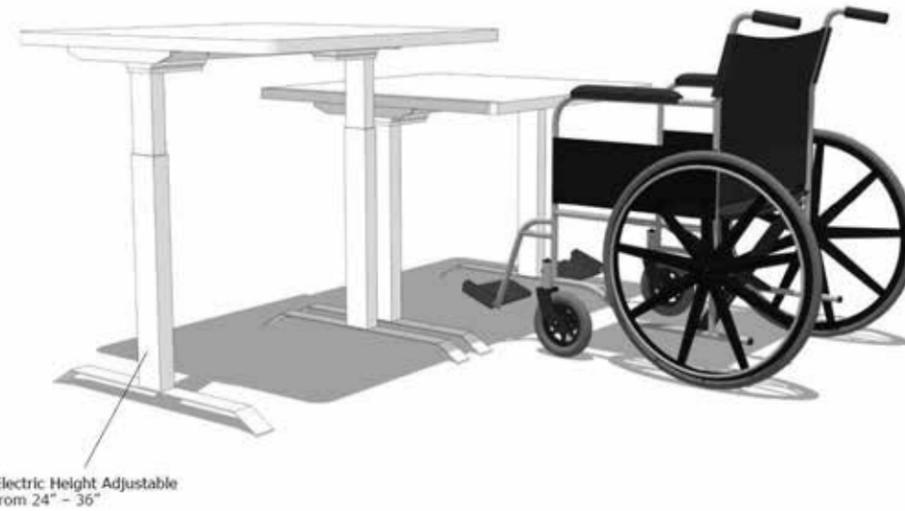
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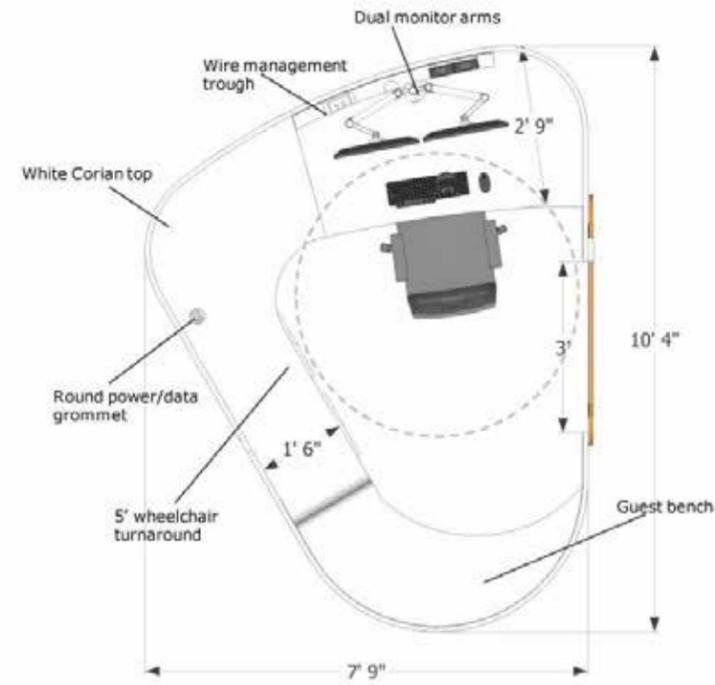
An entirely custom sky light fixture welcomes all guests in the lobby. It hangs intricately from the ceiling with cable suspension technology with acrylic paneling to direct the light source. The shape of the light fixture mirrors the organic form of the reception desk again, creating a "frictionless" space,



ABILITY LAB CUSTOM EQUIPMENT

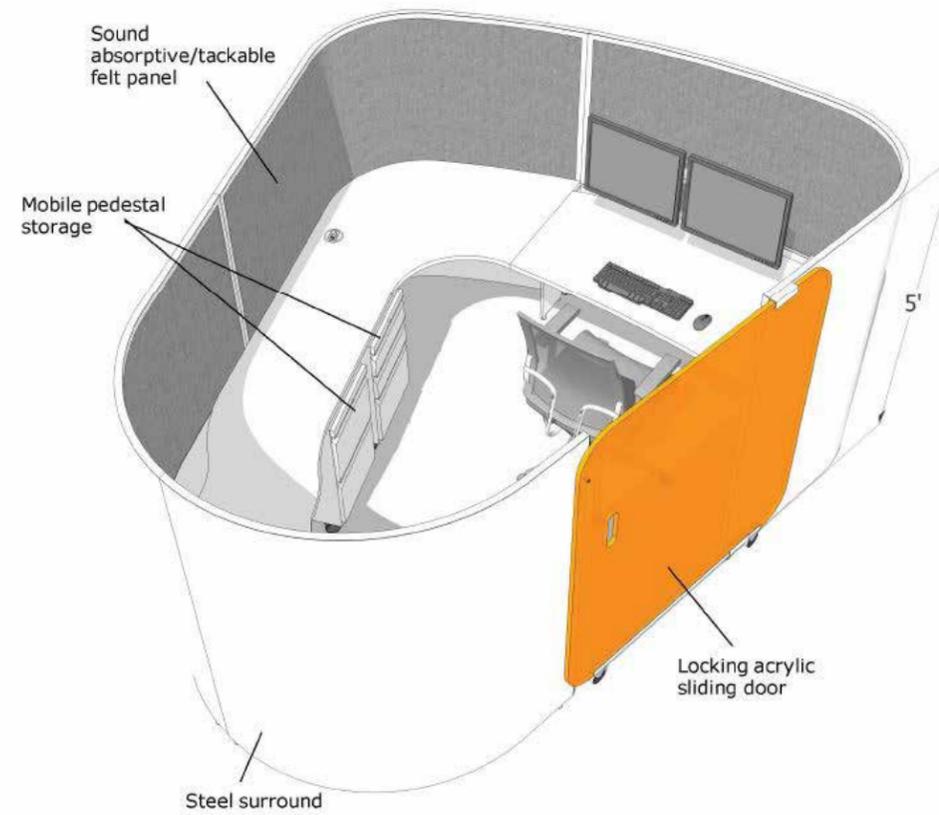
The Hi-Lo adjustable table was custom made for patients and staff to conduct interactive research with the option of height adjustable tabletops with hinging features. Working alongside the physicians, we were able to create a patient centered design. The stable metal base allows structure and safety for patients. Additionally, the Walking Lab needed custom training stairs. These include non-slip rubber sheet flooring and hand railing for both children and adults.





PI WORKSTATION

Physician Workstations: This cubicle-style design creates a sophisticated and intricate balance of collaboration and privacy. The workstations are fabricated with heavy-duty steel framework, portable storage units, sound absorbent material, and locking capabilities. The workstations have optimized storage through mobile pedestal cabinets.



3D View

SHIRLEY RYAN ABILITYLAB **AWARDS**

GOLD AWARD: MODERN HEALTHCARE DESIGN

CONTRACT HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENT AWARD 2017-18

IIDA HEALTHCARE DESIGN COMPETITION

U.S NEWS & WORLD REPORT 2017 BEST HOSPITALS

THE DAISY NURSING AWARD

AWARD OF MERIT: HEALTHCARE ENR MIDWEST'S 2017

CHICAGO INNOVATION AWARD WINNER

AIA CHICAGO DESIGN EXCELLENCE AWARDS

INTERIOR DESIGN BEST OF YEAR