

Rivista Bimestrale/Poste Italiane SpA - P. I. 16/11/2023 Italia € 12.00
Canada CAD 39.95/Germany € 24.80/UK GBP 19.50/Greece € 22.00/Portugal € 22.00/Spain € 22.00/Switzerland CHF 30.00/USA \$ 40.95/Belgium € 22.00/Austria € 31.00



rivista internazionale di architettura e arti del progetto settembre/ottobre 2023

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healthcare

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Cino Zucchi - CZA

Urbs sano in corpore sano. Le evoluzioni parallele della disciplina medica, dei luoghi di cura e delle tecnologie legate alla salute intrecciano i loro percorsi in maniera complessa, governando il progressivo passaggio dal modello a padiglioni distanzati dei Policlinici di fine Ottocento a quello più integrato e compatto delle realizzazioni recenti.

Un ospedale contemporaneo ospita la vita quotidiana di molte persone diverse: pazienti, medici, infermieri, personale amministrativo e di servizio, parenti e visitatori. I servizi a disposizione del pubblico si estendono ben al di là dell'erogazione di diagnosi, terapia e degenza: programmi di prevenzione e monitoraggio, corsi di aggiornamento e altre attività mettono in relazione la "macchina" ospedaliera con la vita di molte persone e la rendono un punto di riferimento di un territorio allargato.

Gli spazi della sanità si presentano oggi come un ambiente urbano di convivenza e scambio destinato alla cura e a una "pedagogia del benessere" in armonia con le aspettative sempre più alte di estensione e qualità della vita. I nuovi spazi di cura devono trovare la sintesi tra due esigenze diverse: la sempre maggiore qualità dei processi e la complementare esigenza di trasparenza e partecipazione alle scelte da parte di tutti.

Se il rispetto dei protocolli e delle procedure è un elemento fondamentale della qualità del servizio, la partecipazione dell'utente è un possibile antidoto ai pericoli di una informatizzazione spinta che spesso può limitare l'interazione diretta tra operatori, medici e pazienti. Ciò può essere ottenuto con strategie differenziate: la "piastina sanitaria" prenderà sempre di più il carattere di un ambiente specializzato in continua evoluzione, mentre le parti dedicate al pubblico dovranno abbandonare l'"aria da ospedale" che caratterizzava i nosocomi di una volta per assomigliare agli spazi conviviali della città includendo accoglienti aree verdi e aprendosi a una fruizione allargata.

Un "ospedale ospitale" deve rassicurare con la sua atmosfera e la sua qualità ambientale persone per le quali il disagio del corpo può diventare disagio psicologico. Il senso di efficienza, chiarezza e pulizia che una "città della salute" deve donare può oggi coniugarsi con il comfort e il carattere accogliente che percepiamo in situazioni domestiche o alberghiere, accogliendo nuovi luoghi conviviali capaci di fare dialogare i vari pubblici che ne vivono gli spazi ogni giorno.

Creating a digital twin of a hospital makes it possible to analyze different operating strategies, the totality of the clinical and management procedures, the personnel and models of assistance, and to determine what sorts of actions should be implemented to improve and optimize the entire system and plan for future challenges. Through the use of a Digital Twin, an entire hospital can be virtualized to design and manage a safe environment. At the moment, the development of Digital Twin applications is basically managed by private organisations and companies and, especially in Italy, there is a lack of continuous updating of academic teaching with regard to Artificial Intelligence topics, of which Digital Twins are a branch.

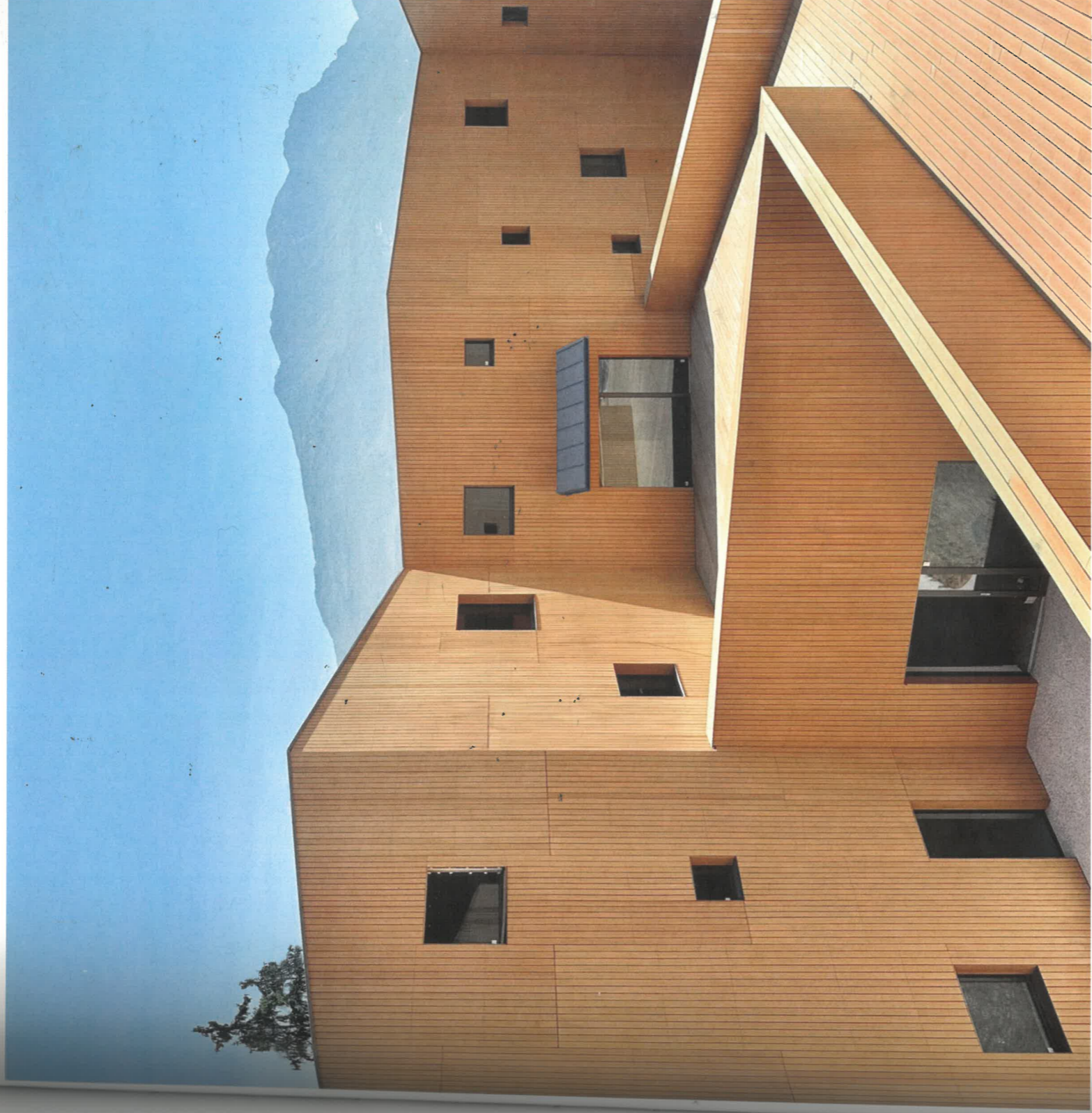
Monica Tricario - Piurarch

In considering the topic of the hospital of the future, Alvar and Aino Aalto immediately come to mind, with their Paimio Sanatorium and what it meant for the development of modern architecture. Everything about it, every element – rooms with wide openings, common areas, all with different outlooks, solarium terraces, furnishing details – was design to foster the patients' healing. This structure was architecture's answer to the terrible epidemic of tuberculosis that swept Europe at the beginning of the last century. Similarly, the recent experience of the Covid pandemic should trigger new considerations on design of both the processes and the physical spaces of hospitals, toward an architecture that not only provides continuous health care and is able to remain functional even in extreme situations, but that is truly focused on the physical and psychological wellbeing of people. Except for a few rare exceptions, modern hospitals do not respond to contemporary needs, the concepts of treatment and the centrality of care. This is largely due to the chronic lack of investment in the health service.

It is therefore necessary to reconsider and redesign a resilient, flexible and adaptable structure that is efficient and technologically advanced, with particular attention to safety and comfort, not only for the patients but also for the healthcare personnel and caregivers. The relationship of the architecture with the context and with the exterior aspects is fundamental, both during the planning stages, when attempting to select a readily accessible location, and to ensure the ability to offer uplifting views of the landscape and nature to cheer the patients and contribute to their emotional wellbeing. There is ample scientific evidence that contact with natural greenery is one of the factors contributing to good health: the presence of abundant natural growth in thoughtfully designed indoor and outdoor plantings, so-called healing gardens, makes the hospital more than a place of medical treatment and procedures, but also one where wellbeing can hasten the healing process.

Cino Zucchi - CZA

Urbs sano in corpore sano. Parallel breakthroughs in medicine, treatment facilities and the technologies linked to health have become interwoven in complex ways, dominating the gradual passage from the model of separate pavilions, typical of the late 19th century, to the more integrated design of recent structures. A contemporary hospital contains the daily life of many different people: patients, doctors, nurses, executives, service personnel and visitors. The services available to the public go well beyond the provision of diagnosis, therapy and treatment: programs of prevention and monitoring, update courses and other activities make the hospital "machine" a fundamental part of the lives of many people and a center of reference for the community at large.



The sites of healthcare participate today in an urban environment of cohabitation and exchange, contributing to treatment and to educating the citizens in a culture of wellbeing, in harmony with the expectation of greatly prolonged life spans, while improving the quality of life for everyone.

The newest treatment centers have to establish a balance between two different needs: that of improved quality of processes alongside the demand of transparency and participation in the decisional process on the part of all concerned.

If the respect of protocols and procedures is a fundamental element of the quality of the service, the participation of the user is a possible antidote to the hazards of excessive digitalization that may tend to limit direct interaction between medical operators and their patients.

This can be achieved with different strategies: as the "health platform" moves in the direction of specialization, in a context of constant evolution, the sectors closer to the public will have to abandon the "hospital mentality" that characterized so many facilities in the past, and

develop the characteristics of a more convivial setting, including comfortable green parklike surroundings and a more open, accessible environment.

A "hospitable hospital" should have a reassuring atmosphere to ensure that physical discomfort is not aggravated by psychological discomfort as well. The modern "citadel of health" has to convey a sense of efficiency, transparency and cleanliness, as well as the comfort and reassurance that we perceive in domestic environments and hotels, acting as new group settings capable of interacting efficiently and empathetically with a widely varied collectivity every day.