

socso

REHABILITATION CENTRE

A transitional centre that combines elements of nature and spirituality in the transformative journey of healing.

CLIENT
SOCIAL SECURITY
ORGANISATION MALAYSIA
(SOCSO)

LOCATION
AYER KEROH, MALACCA

YEAR COMPLETED
JANUARY 2014

ARCHITECT
ANUAR AZIZ ARCHITECT

SITE AREA
224,275.10 SQM

BUILT-UP AREA
51,707 SQM

PROJECT PRINCIPAL
DATUK A/ HJ SAIFUL
ANUAR ABUL AZIZ

C & S ENGINEER
HSS INTEGRATED
SDN BHD

M & E ENGINEER
HSS MEKANIKAL &
ELEKTRIKAL SDN BHD

QUANTITY SURVEYOR
BASAR & HARUN SDN BHD

CONTRACTOR
IJM CONSTRUCTION
SDN BHD

INTERIOR DESIGNER
ARTE AXIS INTERIOR
SDN BHD

GBI FACILITATOR
ARTE AXIS ATELIER
SDN BHD

MEDICAL PLANNER
PERUNDING
MEDICONSULT SDN BHD

LANDSCAPING
MENTARI DESIGN

PHOTOGRAPHER
DAVID YEOW



ABOVE: Admin Block main facade with sun shading open; BELOW: Admin Block main facade with sun shading closed



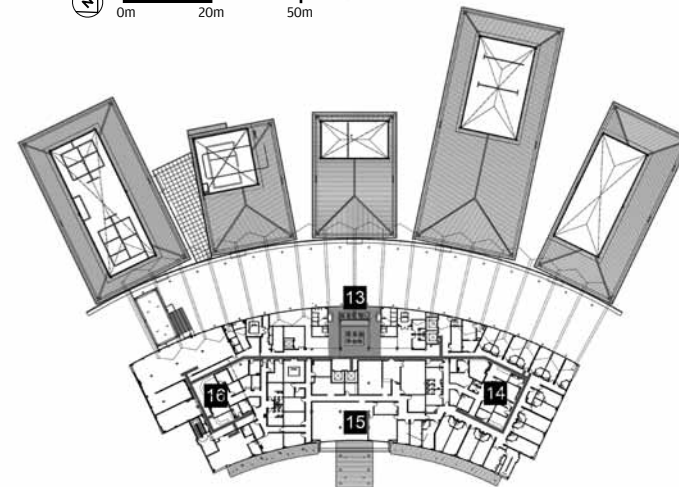
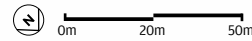
This is the first rehabilitation complex in the world that combines medical and vocational rehabilitation with an allied health institute. Located on 55.42 acres of undulating landscape, this is the first complex to be constructed at the Bandar Hijau Hang Tuah Jaya (Hang Tuah Jaya Green Town) – a new township where all developments must comply with green requirements. This GBI-certified complex was designed with ‘nature’ and ‘spirituality’ in mind, as they play equally important roles in the healing process.

Under the Social Security Organisation Malaysia’s (SOCSO)’s Return to Work programme, the centre allows disabled patients insured under SOCSO to undergo physical and vocational rehabilitation. The vocational rehab will provide training facilities to equip patients with new skills prior to re-entering the workforce. An allied health institute specifically related to rehabilitation will provide future manpower while using the rehab complex as a training facility.

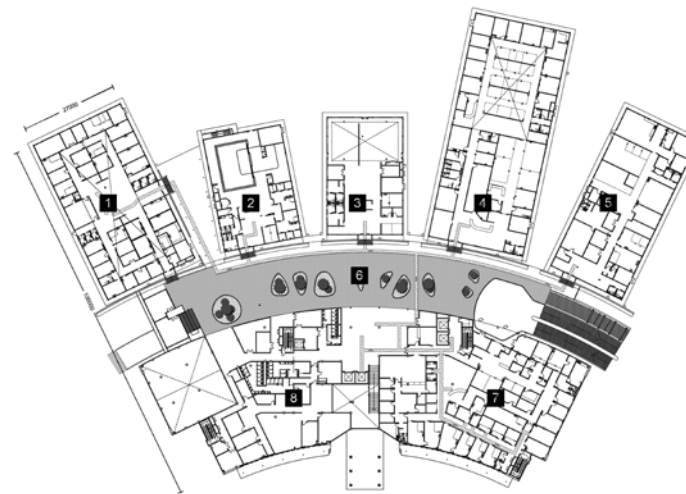
The main tenants are people with disabilities and their caretakers. The whole planning was orchestrated based on the Universal Right of Access or ‘access for all’ concept, i.e. achieving equality and inclusiveness for everybody in buildings and the external environment, and the Malaysian Standard Code of Practice on Access for Disabled Person to Public Buildings, and other statutory guidelines and requirements.

The creation of a ‘primary spine’ will provide ease of movement for pedestrian, wheelchair, or buggy. Multiple experiences created by landscape and resting areas provide ‘pausing stations’. Buildings are clustered according to principal function, and each cluster is intimately connected via the ‘primary spine’.

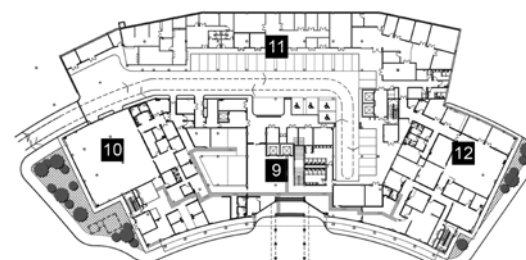
‘HEALING HAND’ LAYOUT OF
MEDICAL REHAB BLOCKS



Second floor plan



First floor plan



Ground floor plan

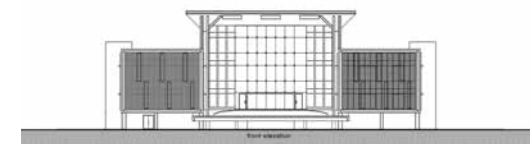
There are six main clusters: Hope (Administration Block and staff canteen), Heal (Medical Rehab Blocks), Rest (Hostel and Canteen Blocks), Learn (Vocational Rehab Block), Learn (Allied Health Institute Block), and Spiritual & Nature (*surau* (Muslim prayer hall), Quiet Room (meditation), and lush

landscape). Other facilities also include services blocks and carparks.

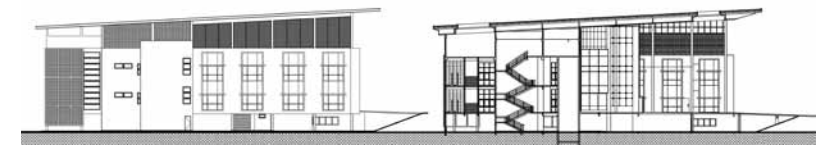
The Administration Block plays two important points in the journey of healing – as starting point of giving ‘hope’ to patients and the final point where they leave the complex after the healing process with a new job in tow.

The heart of the complex, the Medical Rehab Blocks, is laid out based on the ‘healing hand’, where main facilities and wards form the palm, while the therapy blocks represent the five fingers. Hostel and Canteen Blocks are intermediary buildings serving both medical and vocational rehab functions, whilst the

ADMINISTRATION BLOCK

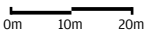


Front elevation



Side elevation

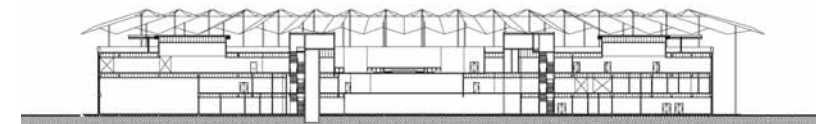
Building section



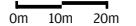
MEDICAL REHAB
BLOCK



Front elevation



Building section



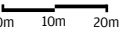
MEDICAL REHAB
BLOCK



Side elevation



Building section





ABOVE: Primary Spine – the main route between blocks is 3m wide for buggy, wheelchair, and walking; BELOW, FROM LEFT: Medical Rehab hydrotherapy pool; Medical Rehab physio room



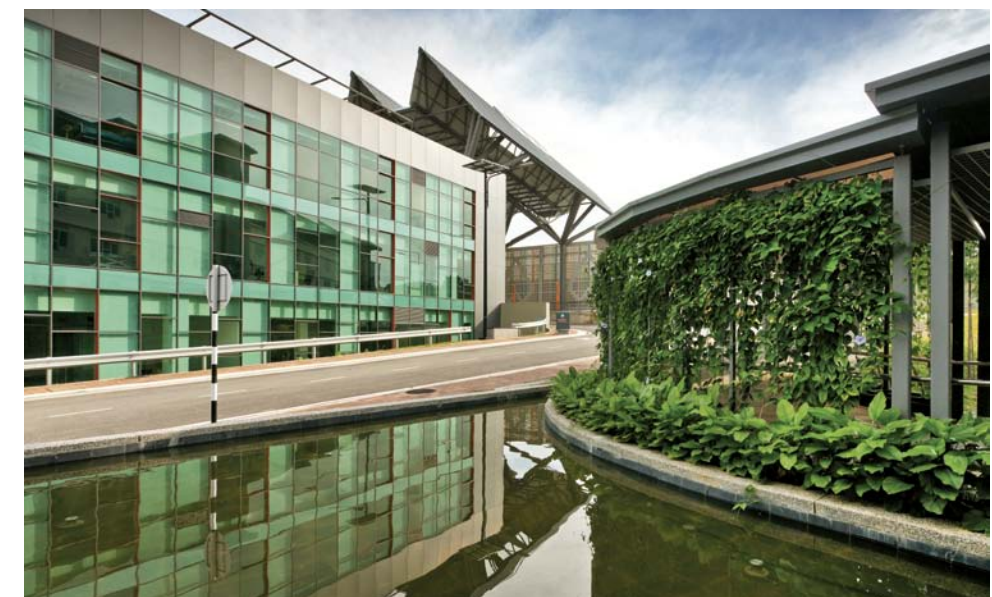
FROM TOP: Vocational Rehab Block main facade; Reflective Pond for Quiet Room at Hostel Block

Vocational Rehab Block is where patients learn new skills in an environment adapted to real working conditions. The Allied Health Institute Block is run by an established institution and is not directly involved with the rehab process. As such the building is kept separate.

As 'spirituality' is the main focus of healing in Malaysian Islamic context, the *surau* acts as the axis for the Heal, Rest, and Learn clusters. There is also a transient space called the Sanctuary Garden which forms a strong link to all facilities, a pausing space post-therapy and major public space for the complex.

The buildings are placed sensitively on existing topography, maintaining and enhancing the space wherever possible. Each building is given a different identity according to functions and for ease of wayfinding. For a serene environment, calming and soft colours are utilised throughout the complex. Great emphasis is also given to green design with details such as north-south orientation, natural lighting and ventilation, 'wind corridor', low-E glass, and fixed and movable sun shading panels.

The complex is also a conscious move from the 'hospital' outlook into a more informal or resort environment with emphasis on landscape to expedite the healing process. As a result, soft and hard landscaping are very strong elements that hold the whole development together. Interstitial spaces form pocket gardens, while larger spaces are designed for bigger concept gardens. It is intended that 'nature' and 'spiritual' therapy be integral to the healing process. ۞



Night view of the Sanctuary Garden in the Medical Rehab Block

