

14.3.1 Entrance halls, waiting areas and lift halls

In the main entrance of a hospital visitors will look for signage to direct them towards their destination. The lighting should be designed in conjunction with interior materials and finishes to clarify transit routes and points of arrival. A change of type, height or orientation of the luminaires can highlight the focal point of activity such as reception, waiting areas and lifts (Figure 14.1). This approach to design will also provide brightness variations that contribute to the pleasantness of the interior. A maintained illuminance of 200 lx on the floor is recommended.



Figure 14.1
A hospital entrance area

14.3.2 Reception and enquiry desks

Maintained illuminances of 300 lx on the floor of the reception area and 500 lx on the task areas are recommended. The overall impression should be a welcoming one that avoids harsh contrasts (Figure 14.2). It is important to consider the vertical as well as the horizontal illumination, so that people's faces within the reception areas are properly lit as this will provide good facial modelling and help with the process of lip reading.



Figure 14.2
A hospital reception area