Physical Security Plan

Exterior

- For the lighting, I recommend placing lights around all entrances of the hospital, throughout each parking garage, and the parking garages' entrances and exits. Lighting will create higher visibility in all high traffic areas leading to easier surveillance for security and a more comfortable environment for patients, guests, and employees.

- The main factor I considered in the parking areas is visibility. Adding adequate lighting and security cameras will allow for high visibility in the garages. To keep unauthorized people out, I recommend two features for the employee garage: a fence around the perimeter and a security guard at the entrance/exit.

- Placing cameras throughout the parking garage and outside of the hospital entrances and exits will help keep accountability of everyone who enters and exit the hospital.

Lobby

- For the Lobby, I highly recommend using shatterproof windows to provide safety and enhance natural surveillance. There will be a metal detector/bag check station at each entrance to ensure that no weapons or prohibited items make it onto hospital grounds. There will also be a security guard at every door with card access systems at employee entrances.

- To enter the hospital, guests will need to provide an ID that shows their name, age, and place of residence. They will then get a visitors' badge with their name on it that they will need to wear while on hospital grounds.

- Each door will have a metal detector/bag check station, a security camera, as well as a security guard. The main entrance will have additional resources to provide visitor ID badges.

Maternity Unit

- The placement of the nurse's station is important because it also acts as an access control point. It allows for hospital staff to monitor who goes in and out of the maternity unit.

- Encouraging visitors to stay in designated areas will control people's flow in and out of sensitive areas like the maternity unit. It will also aid in keeping the accountability of people.

- Newborns and parents will immediately be given matching numbered bracelets to wear, preventing accidental switching among newborns. To avoid potential abduction, newborns will also have an RFID system attached to them. This system will set off an alarm in a newborn is taken past a certain point without authorization.

- I recommend that secondary ID badges for maternity ward employees be enforced. Special badges will help decrease the number of people, without the need to be there, in the sensitive maternity unit.

Security Training

- Mandatory training for employees will include Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), color code (red, blue, black, etc.) [1], and cybersecurity training. All this training will be required during onboarding and then at least every quarter. In general, the training will not be different among departments in the hospital, although some training may be more in-depth for individual departments. For instance, code pink, widely used as a code for an infant or child abduction, may be practiced more in units like the maternity unit. However, everyone in the hospital must know what they need to do when the code gets called.

Additional Resources

- For additional resources, visit The Joint Comission [2] or the Center for Health Design [3].

References

[1] M. Dix, "Code Blue, Code Red, Code Black: Definition of Hospital Color Codes," 2 May 2018. [Online]. Available: https://www.healthline.com/health/code-blue.

[2] The Joint Comission, "The Joint Comission," 2021. [Online]. Available: https://www.jointcommission.org/. [Accessed 14 February 2021].

[3] The Center for Health Design, "https://www.healthdesign.org/," 14 February 2021. [Online]. Available: https://www.healthdesign.org/.