

# CSA Z8003:21, Health care facility design studies and post-occupancy evaluation

Health care facilities (HCFs) are complex environments that accommodate a wide range of building elements and technological innovation. Sound planning, design, and construction of HCFs help maximize the efficiency of the built environment and support safe operation and improved health care outcomes. The study of HCF design can provide valuable information and insights into the planning, design, and construction of future facilities.

The new National Standard, CSA Z8003:21, offers practical guidance for a defined, structured and systematic process to develop and conduct planning, design, and construction (PDC) studies and post-occupancy evaluations (POE). It provides a consistent terminology, methodology, and requirements for HCFs design and construction, allowing to:

- share best practices between regions and facilities, regardless of their size;
- promote consistency in the evaluation, study, and research of HCF design and construction; and
- establish a baseline that regulatory and funding agencies can adopt and enforce within their jurisdiction.

CSA Z8003:21 complements existing standards and codes for HCFs. It can serve as a central resource for regulatory and funding agencies, planners, architects, engineers, health care administrators, infection prevention and control professionals, vendors, researchers, and internal and external evaluators. With its modular approach, the Standard can apply to an entire HCF project or to components within HCFs undergoing renovation or new construction.

## At-A-Glance



Health care facilities (HCFs) design and evaluation are essential in keeping patients, visitors, and staff in a safe and appropriate physical environment for the delivery of health care services.



CSA Z8003:21 provides requirements for HCF design studies and post-occupancy evaluation and helps ensure a consistent approach to collecting evidence, reviewing, and evaluating HCFs design.



CSA Z8003:21 can be applied in all Canadian jurisdictions and HCFs regardless of their type, size, or budget.

## Get your copy of the Standard

CSA Z8003:21 is available on the [CSA Store](#).

## Standard Highlights

CSA Z8003:21 is a part of the CSA Z8000 series of HCF planning, design, and construction standards. This National Standard:

- contains a comprehensive and coordinated set of requirements, references, and guidelines that apply to all aspects of the evaluation, study, and research of design for HCFs;
- recognizes the important contributions of discovery and innovation in advancing the design of HCFs to positively impact health outcomes and promote well-being and safety;
- applies to HCF projects, including new construction, and additions, renovations, and redevelopments of existing facilities;
- can be used by HCFs regardless of their type, size, location, or level of care provided;
- supports interdisciplinary HCF design teams that include administrators, health care program and clinical planners, clinical staff, infection prevention and control professionals, facility operations and maintenance staff, patients and their families, non-clinical support staff, as well as professional designers, vendors, and funding agencies;
- is not intended for the evaluation of clinical practice or facility operations except as it influences the planning, design, and construction process (i.e., third-party operational reviews).

## Related standards

- [CSA Z8000-18, Canadian health care facilities](#)
- [CAN/CSA-Z8001-13 \(R2018\), Commissioning of health care facilities](#)
- [CSA Z8002:19, Operation and maintenance of health care facilities](#)



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