

ACI's 4-Part Philosophy:

- Prevention: identify risks and change lifestyles through screening and education
- Care: provide outstanding personalized care and treatment
- Support: help those with cancer and their families cope
- Rebuilding: after cancer support including financial assistance and relationship building

Focus Group Design Suggestions

Patient focus groups have told us what they wanted in a cancer facility, and we have incorporated their ideas in our building design:

- A welcoming place.
- As many services in one place as possible.
- Patient choice. In our new infusion area, for example, patients can either be alone, with family, or grouped with others. Currently, all infusion patients receive treatment in a common area.
- A healing environment, with concern for environmental sensitivity that patients might have to paint, adhesives, carpet, etc.
- A connection to nature.
- The latest technology.
- Scenic views. Patients receiving infusion treatment will overlook the indoor atrium and through windows to the south.
- Concern for family members. Features such as the indoor atrium, outdoor park, Cancer Resource Library, a bistro, meditation room and chapel, family rooms and several rest/respite areas indoors and outdoors, address the needs of families who come with cancer patients undergoing treatment.
- Business center (Internet service, phones, fax machines) so patients and families can continue working.
- Private TVs equipped with AveraVision entertainment and information channels.

Technology Improvement/Research/Capacity

The Avera Cancer Institute will feature the most advanced cancer fighting technology in our region.

- All technologies within one building allows for easier treatment and care plans for patients. It is unusual to house all diagnostic imaging for cancer detection, treatment and surveillance under one roof.
- The Avera Cancer Institute will have one of only two advanced linear accelerators installed in the United States designed to dramatically improve accuracy in radiology treatment.
- With over 40 ongoing clinical trials in cancer care, patients have access to the newest, most cutting-edge treatments. This work also is crucial to the national cancer research effort aimed at preventing cancer recurrence and improving outcomes.