GLENDALE ADVENTIST MEDICAL CENTER
Making patient safety and privacy a top priority

The Glendale Adventist Medical Center (GAMC) in Glendale, California, is part of the Adventist Health not-for-profit integrated health care delivery system, which has nearly 20,000 employees serving California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington. The GAMC has built a reputation for providing compassionate, professional healthcare services for the whole person - body, mind and spirit. Founded in 1905 as a 75-bed sanitarium, the GAMC is now a 450-bed full-service facility offering industry-leading treatment and wellness options.

New Patient Care Tower

The GAMC’s new West Tower project offers the latest in patient technology, techniques, comfort, convenience and safety. It includes seven stories for expanded patient care, including a larger emergency department, spacious surgery suites, private patient rooms, a new cardiovascular center, an intensive care unit and more. The GAMC West Tower Phase III adds 35,000 square feet of space and 60 new beds including two intensive care units and two new surgical telemetry units.

A focus on safety

The GAMC is renowned for a focus on safety, having launched in 2008 its Culture of Safety Initiative. Patient safety touches many aspects of a healthcare environment, including its design and architecture. To meet the GAMC’s stringent fire-rating requirements and help ensure optimal patient safety, architects Perkins Eastman of Oakland, CA, set strict guidelines for fire-resistant glazing with a UL fire-rating by Underwriters Laboratories,® Inc.

Patient privacy

Understanding that patient privacy is essential in hospitals, Perkins Eastman also sought a means of providing visual privacy controls on interior windows and doors that would be hygienic, adjustable and easy to operate.
The combined privacy and fire-resistant solution

After a rigorous market review, Perkins Eastman selected TGP’s Pilkington Pyrostop® - a fire-rated and impact safety-rated glazing material that also blocks radiant heat to protect people on the non-fire side of the glass where radiant heat transfer might be a concern. Unicel Architectural’s Vision Control® integrated louvers were combined with the fire-resistant Pilkington Pyrostop® glazing to ensure both safety and privacy. Vision Control® is a patented, hermetically sealed glass unit combining louvers within glass that can be customized to virtually any shape for interior or exterior glazing applications.

A total of 40 Pilkington Pyrostop®/Vision Control® units with double crank handles were installed in interior locations on the 3rd and 4th floors using 45-minute fire-resistance-rated glazing on both sides of the units. The combined Vision Control® and Pilkington Pyrostop® glazing assembly has been UL fire-rated by Underwriters Laboratories,® Inc. for doors, windows, transoms and sidelights, and was recently designated as a 2011 Product of the Year by USGlass Magazine.

The results

By combining the hermetically sealed, adjustable louvers with fire-resistant glazing, Perkins Eastman delivered an ideal solution to address both safety and privacy concerns that meets stringent hospital fire-rating requirements. GAMC patients are assured of privacy at a time when they may be at their most vulnerable, along with the peace of mind that comes with knowing that they are protected by glazing with industry leading fire-resistance capabilities. The GAMC Tower III opened January 9, 2012.