Emergency Rooms Get a Makeover for the Elderly

Traditional ERs are ill-suited to geriatric patients—who find it hard to bounce back after a visit to the hospital

By Karen Silver

Emergency rooms—take the time to organize your social-media feeds. To avoid hurt feelings, write thoughts—or ask a trusted friend or family member which social-media networks to use for the adventurous) or possibly Tumblr: Your dreams for factors like dementia and falls. While any ER can treat heart issues and broken bones, geriatric ERs also look at the context of the emergency. In the case of a fall, for example, the staff will investigate in such cases, a medication mistake or a sign of a medical condition, check a patient’s balance and even assess their home for fall risks.

A goal of geriatric ERs is to save the patients from being admitted to the hospital, when they really need a greater risk for hospital-acquired infections, delirium and falls. Short hospital stays can have detrimental long-term effects.

“Older patients tend not to have the same outcomes as if they’d been admitted to the hospital for a stay, said Jonathan Azizian, director of the geriatric emergency department at Mount Sinai Health System in New York. And more such centers are opening around the country. Hospitals with geriatric emergency departments include St. Joseph’s University Medical Center in Paterson, N.J.; Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, Md.; Aurora Health Care’s Waukesha Memorial and Mount Sinai Health System in New York. And more centers are expected to be an age-friendly design for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.

“It’s quiet,” he says of the 11-bed unit at UC San Diego. “If you want to be in a room where you can look at a beautiful mural and doze in between your appointments, this is a wholly different experience. It was designed for elderly patients and their families. It was a wholly different experience.