

Clean Areas/Healthcare

A smooth ceiling surface is ideal for treatment rooms and utility areas. A smooth surface is easier to wash and without protuberances, **dust and microbes** will not be able to collect in the perforations. A considerable advantage in hospitals where cleanliness is of critical importance!



Medical environments include many areas subject to **high humidity** levels and limited ventilation. Additionally, there are many areas that require frequent **cleaning**. For these areas, it is essential that the specifier chooses washable ceilings with a high level of humidity resistance. Washability tests show the superior washability, stain resistance and water repellence of Armstrong Bioguard versus a typical ceiling.



The control of bio-contamination is essential in the healthcare sector, especially in hospitals and clinics. A ceiling tile should not favour the development of micro-organisms that could 'land' on its surface and is even preferable that the tile actively combats the micro-organisms in order to decrease the number as quickly as possible. Armstrong products contain **fungicide in the paint**, inhibiting growth of moulds, mildew and yeasts. In certain areas within hospitals, it is essential to limit the **number of particles** suspended in the air by creating a clean-room type environment using products certified in accordance with internal standards. Armstrong offers solutions for areas with the most stringent requirements.



In hospitals, it is usually the **area behind the false ceiling (the plenum)** above corridors and technical areas (radiology rooms) which contains the largest number of electrical circuits, ventilation ducts, air extraction ducts and so on. The smallest problem means that repairs have to be carried out. However, such areas cannot be made out of use for hours. Thus rapid access to the plenum, it is essential to install ceilings that are easily demountable (and "remountable" too).

Natural daylight is a very important factor for patients and staff. Armstrong offer a wide range of healthcare products with **high light reflectance** enabling energy savings from efficient lighting design.

Staff, visitors and patients are constantly on the move in hospitals. Such sources of noise are often highly disruptive and reduce the tranquillity essential in this environment. The ceiling surface in hospitals is often the only area where it is possible to absorb sound since floors and walls are generally made of hard, surfaces for ease of cleaning. Armstrong false ceilings are ideal to absorb, block and cover sound. **Acoustic performance** is also important in areas that regularly accommodate large numbers of people (cafeterias, offices and waiting rooms) and in high traffic areas (corridors, entrances and halls). Acoustic insulation can be especially important to maintain the confidentiality of medical information and discussion.

For the safety of those in healthcare premises, often patients with reduced mobility, it is essential to ensure that the relevant **fire regulations** are met. Building Regulations require that all buildings meet appropriate Euroclass standards for fire reaction performance depending on the area of application. Armstrong products have been tested to the harmonised European fire reaction standards by independent bodies and fully meet the performance criteria.