



Hospitals are increasingly taking cues from hotel and residential design to make their environments more patient-centered, user-friendly and inviting. So it's not surprising that doctors' offices are following suit. At the new, one-floor, 3,500-square-foot Barley Ziecheck Medical Offices, in New York, Mojo•Stumer Associates has designed a functional and cost-effective space that extends an immediate welcome to patients. The facility, which includes a reception area, examination rooms, consultation rooms, manager's office and business office, makes the most of its tight budget through crisp, minimal detailing, basic building materials, selective use of wood and marble trim, hospitality-style furnishings, and the doctors' modern art collection to establish a feeling of quality and comfort. Its spatial orientation is straightforward, based on centering the circulation around the spacious waiting room and locating doctors' offices along window walls, simplifying wayfinding for patients and staff alike. Keeping the waiting room airy and open has also yielded an important bonus for the practice. Because the elevator opens directly into the waiting area, the sight of what could easily be perceived as a residential living room comes across as warm and sociable—a sight that patients everywhere wouldn't mind seeing.