



CASE  
STUDY

**PROJECT NAME**

Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children

**PROJECT LOCATION**

Wilmington, Delaware

**DESIGN FIRM**

Mitchell Associates  
One Avenue of the Arts, Wilmington, Delaware

**PRODUCT SPECIFIED**

Oriental Cherry Wood Plank

**TOTAL AMOUNT**

3,024 square feet

**Parterre Flooring Creates a Home-Like Atmosphere  
at Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children**

When a child is sick, the parents' world seems to stop. And the hospital becomes their home away from home, while they stay by their child's bedside. That's why the hospital environment should be as comforting as possible, right down to the flooring.

At the Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children located near Wilmington, Delaware, this attitude was at the core of the designs for their new Family Resource Center. Completed in January 2008, the Family Resource Center included resilient flooring from Parterre. To reflect the desire for a homey, yet sophisticated, atmosphere, Parterre Oriental Cherry Wood Plank was selected.



## product highlighted

Oriental Cherry Wood Plank

*"We save all children's care and some specialty care needs," explains the hospital's Associate Administrator Amy Rogers. "The building consists of mostly double rooms in which parents are sharing space with one another. And of course, they're already dealing with a very stressful situation. So the idea behind the Family Resource Center was to create a respite environment, where parents could get away from the hospital room."*

The center includes a living room, library area, kitchenette, laundry, three single-occupancy sleep rooms for parents of critically ill patients, two private showers and two education rooms. For the high-traffic public areas like walkways, the flooring needed to be extremely durable and able to withstand dirt and food and drink spills. It also had to be easy to clean and in compliance with hospital sanitation criteria.

Parterre's wood plank collection offers the look and feel of natural wood, combined with highly appealing colors, textures and finishes – all with the practicality of vinyl. Inherently impervious to microbial life, Parterre flooring does not support fungal and bacterial growth. Plus it meets or exceeds indoor air quality standards. The flooring requires minimal and routine maintenance to retain its original "like-new" appearance and high performance characteristics for many years. From production, to installation, to daily use and disposal, Parterre products also offer environmental benefits including recycled content, recyclability and long life cycles.

"We chose Parterre for its performance and color," says Mitchell Associates Senior Interior Designer Madeline Fucile. "Even though it's in the heart of the hospital, the Family Resource Center needed to feel more like a residence. The wood flooring look makes it seem like a home setting. Plus, it's comfortable underfoot and does not vibrate like other hard surfaces would."

Ultimately, the Parterre flooring effectively reflects the purpose of the space: to create a calming, homey, relaxing setting for patients' families. An environment that's free of the constant medical necessities that become the world they live in with a child in the hospital.

**PARTERRE**  
FLOORING SYSTEMS

500 Research Drive • Wilmington, MA 01897  
888.336.1029 978.203.5400 f 978.203.5401 [parterreflooring.com](http://parterreflooring.com)

