How do FGI Guidelines affect hospital renovation projects?

THE DIRECT ANSWER

Where a state or local jurisdiction has adopted the FGI Guidelines, they must be followed for major renovation projects — not just new construction. That means altered, renovated, or repurposed space gets designed to the adopted edition's requirements for that space type. Both The Joint Commission and DNV also expect accredited facilities to follow either the state-adopted edition or the most current FGI edition when planning new, altered, or renovated space.

WHAT "MAJOR RENOVATION" TRIGGERS

- The trigger isn't cosmetic refresh — it's work that changes the function, configuration, or systems of a space: converting semi-private rooms to private, reconfiguring a unit, replacing HVAC serving clinical areas, or altering procedure rooms.

THE PHASING PROBLEM

- Renovations in operating hospitals happen in phases, and FGI's 2026 cycle specifically addressed phasing during renovations — recognizing that a unit under phased construction has unique compliance questions about which requirements apply when, and how partially complete work interacts with occupied adjacent.

FIELD QUESTION

Do FGI Guidelines apply to renovations or only new construction?

Where adopted, they apply to major renovations — altered, renovated, or repurposed space must meet the adopted edition's requirements for that space type.

From Healthcare Facility Hub - free, like everything on the site. The full article is at the link below.

Caution: codes, editions, and targets vary by facility and authority having jurisdiction (AHJ). Figures marked as common practice are facility targets, not code requirements. Confirm against your AHJ and the current code text before acting.