



# Creating Tranquillity For The Manly Adolescent And Young Adult Hospice

**With beautiful views and surrounded by national parks and bushland, The Manly Adolescent and Young Adult Hospice (AYAH) provides a tranquil place of care for young people and their families. Tarkett's Urban Naturals Luxury Vinyl Tiles help create a natural aesthetic while ticking all the compliance boxes for a healthcare facility.**

The first such facility in Australia specifically for 15–25 year-old patients, the AYAH provides holistic, specialised care for them and their families on the former Manly Hospital site on North Head. Using their broad experience in the healthcare sector, Team2 Architects sought to bring the peace and calm of the natural setting into the facility's design.

'The site has amazing views of the city while being nestled into the bushland,' says Rachael Parting, Associate at Team2 Architects. 'We wanted to bring the natural feeling of the outdoors inside using biophilic design principles to create calm and a sense of well-being.'

## Reflecting the natural world

Biophilic design seeks to connect spaces with the natural environment either directly or indirectly with the use of natural materials, colours and forms, as well as open exchanges with the outdoors and connections with growing things.

'We are limited in the products and materials we are able to use in this healthcare setting due to infection control,' notes Rachael, 'so bringing in products that emulate

natural materials was important for the client. For the colours we went with a soft 'beach' aesthetic featuring timber patterns, whites, neutral and ocean tones.'

Choosing Tarkett's Urban Naturals Luxury Vinyl Tiles in Natural Oak for the flooring throughout the main residential areas helped to coordinate the visual aesthetic while also meeting health and safety requirements, building regulations and quality assurance standards for serviceability and longevity.

## A natural-look floor that performs

The facility provides specialised care tailored to young people and their unique needs, encompassing eight bedrooms for patients, each with an ensuite and outdoor balcony, two carers' lounges and two family accommodation units with two bedrooms each.

In the bedrooms, the Natural Oak Vinyl flooring and a green or blue colourway on feature walls help create an environment that is warm and homely rather than cold or clinical. Each room features full-height glass doors and a balcony so that patients can spend time outside, with Tarkett flooring providing a smooth transition across the threshold.

'The door track is recessed and there is a flush floor-to-frame finish to safely access the tiled balcony,' says Rachael. 'This makes the transition easy for wheelchairs to navigate.'





As a direct-stick Vinyl plank, the Urban Naturals Collection is ideal for delivering a genuine timber look that is extremely hard-wearing. This provides great benefits in accessibility, safety and mobility, particularly for the type of wheeled equipment used in care facilities.

### Consultation brings the best result

'The plank can be cut and shaped and put wherever the flooring needs to go,' says Tarkett Specification Manager Kelly Crawford. 'The product allows clean detailing around joinery units, doors and windows with a clean edge that's easy to install.'

'Our interiors department worked closely with Kelly, Fugen Constructions and installer Mark Kelly at Future Floors,' says Rachael. 'Kelly supplied samples and specifications, and as a result the selections and transition details were easily resolved.'

Fulfilling all the necessary criteria for flooring in care facilities – non-slip, hygienic, easy to clean, gap-free and quiet – the choice of Urban Natural Vinyl Tiles was ideal for an environment that is not only functional and supportive of the medical needs of unwell adolescents, but also enhances their quality of life and provides a sense of normalcy and comfort during a challenging time.

### A complete flooring solution

Floors in the treatment rooms were subject to higher hygiene standards, requiring the Tarkett Homogenous Sheet Vinyl product. Kelly suggested using the iQ range of high-performance Vinyl for extreme durability as well as superior wear, stain and abrasion resistance. The designer chose a combination of iQ One and iQ Eminent to provide visual interest, brightening up the clinical spaces.

Meeting the hygiene and slip-rating requirements for food preparation areas, Safetred Universal Plus was specified for the kitchen flooring, Tarkett's most heavy-duty Heterogeneous Vinyl safety floor. Extreme slip-resistant grip (R12) provides the highest level of protection, while its reinforced surface protects against stains and eases maintenance.

Protection also extended up the wall using Tarkett Wallgard White. Wallgard is a heavy-duty Vinyl wallcovering that provides impact resistance and is ideal for areas where abrasion resistance, better hygiene and cleanliness are needed.

'As this facility is a class 9a building licensed to the Ministry of Health, there are many specific requirements in relation to flooring,' says Rachael. 'Tarkett was able to assist us in providing a complete solution, helping us create a facility where patients and their families can feel safe, comfortable and cared for.'