

VERITAS DESIGN GROUP

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Greetings Everyone!

In this month's e-news, we are pleased to provide an update of the current "COVID-19" pandemic from the perspective of an architect whose expertise is healthcare: our very own Anton Alers, country Principal of VERITAS Architects Australia.

We are also pleased to feature our 1st Staff Quarterly Meeting for 2020 and many other interesting "Happenings" here at VERITAS.

In the face of this COVID-19 worldwide pandemic, VERITAS is committed to caring for the well-being of our staff, society and supporting response efforts all around the world.

Healthcare Principal **Anton Alers** shares his views on healthcare design in relation to the "COVID - 19" Pandemic.



Anton is the founding director of VERITAS Architects Australia and brings to the VERITAS Design Group over 30 years of international architectural experience across a wide range of projects. With his extensive experience in healthcare and aged care projects, Anton heads the group's healthcare portfolio.

Anton holds a Masters Degree in Architecture from Melbourne University and is a registered architect in Australia and the UK. He has particular working experience in Australia, United Kingdom, Singapore, Malaysia and Vietnam. His project experience includes Healthcare Masterplanning, Healthcare design, Hospitals and Medical Centres, Assisted Living, Aged Care Facilities and Retirement Villages.

How do well you think healthcare facilities in Malaysia are prepared to cater for pandemic outbreaks such as COVID-19?

Malaysia fortunately has a very well developed and accessible healthcare system and has good capacity in both the private hospital and government sectors. However, even developed countries will struggle to cope with the sheer volume of cases currently being experienced in countries like Italy, and earlier in the outbreak, China, which was able to mobilize all resources including the rapid construction of several modular hospitals within a very short period to provide additional bed capacity.

What are the essential features in healthcare design that prepares hospitals to handle pandemic situations?

