The Nursing Home of the Future
- The Concept

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Early 2012 the first sod was turned at the site of The Nursing Home of the Future. It is being built along the waterfront of Nørresundby between the bridges. Close to the beach park of Lindholm, and especially the Limfjord. The Nursing Home of the Future shall be built on a vision leading to well-being, safety, and nursing care; it is a vision that involves the use of new welfare technologies, not as a goal in itself, but as a means to achieve the goal.

The Nursing Home of the Future will consist of 75 apartments, service areas, activity center, theme rooms, wellness area, administration, as well as a privately owned, public restaurant - all together more than 7000 square meters of new construction.

In step with society
The architectural design of The Nursing Home of the Future does not, at first glance, signal care facilities for elderly people, but this is a deliberate choice. The Nursing Home of the Future shall be a natural part of the close community, showing obligingness - always being open to the times that we are living in.

The individual
The Nursing Home of the Future will put the person first; because every elderly person is an individual having a unique past, present, and future; hence, there must room for differences also in the old age. For this reason there must be created a home and an everyday which is closely related to the life story of the resident and his ways of life.

Communities and activities
In The Nursing Home of the Future there must be opportunity for social interaction or togetherness; the resident must be able to meet with others sharing interests, goals, and dreams, thus forming social networks and engaging in communities. In The Nursing Home of the Future the resident must have the opportunity to live his life throughout the house; e.g. by meeting with like-minded people in one of the various theme rooms, joining with others to fitness, or enjoying a shared meal in the à la carte restaurant overlooking the Limfjord.

Sense stimulation and life phase
In other words: In The Nursing Home of the Future the resident will be met with experiences and activities, because the senses must be stimulated, the body moved and the brain challenged – life should be lived, all the time. The flexible interior of The Nursing Home of the Future gives very good opportunities for experiences and activities, but also for those quiet moments, depending on the needs, desires, and phase of life of the resident.

Technology
The subtitle of the project is ‘Well-being and Technology’. That is, welfare technology should help to create well-being, as it enhances and supports safety, security, social networking, and the activities of daily life. In The Nursing Home of the Future there will be, for example, interactive screens displaying multimedia contents that enhance the access to experiences and activities, also making it easier for the elderly person to get into contact with family and friends, as well as the caring staff.

Living Lab
It is also the ambition that The Nursing Home of the Future shall be a Living Lab, in which new welfare technologies, new workflows as well as new ways of putting together the staff can be tested, evaluated, and subsequently implemented. Currently The Nursing Home of the Future is involved in two projects with other municipalities and private companies. E.g. a wireless guiding system which will assist and encourage the elderly person to move around more within and outside the nursing home (IABIS) is under development. Furthermore, The Nursing Home of the Future will participate in developmental projects concerning “The caring Staff of the future” in cooperation with educational institutions and private providers for the development of staff competencies with the field of elderly care.

The Nursing Home of the Future must move with the times. New welfare technologies as well as new ideas concerning the caring staff and management will contribute to the fulfillment of this ambition.

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