



Ligature-resistant Bathroom Door for Behavioral Health

Product Innovation Highlights

Designed specifically for behavioral health, this saloon-style bathroom door releases at a weight of less than 11lbs, in any direction, and helps to create a safer environment whilst preserving the privacy and dignity of patients facing the journey towards recovery.



The door leaves are available in three width options and 8 color/design options.

SAFEHINGE[®] PRIMERA

About Safehinge Primera

Safehinge Primera develops products that help protect people through vulnerable times by designing a range of doors and hardware to reduce the risk of suicide in inpatient behavioral health environments.

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Solving a Healthcare Challenge

With 91% of inpatient suicides taking place in the patient bedroom or bathroom and 49% occurring using the door or door hardware, doors present the highest ligature risk in behavioral health.¹ Safehinge Primera's Bathroom Door is designed to reduce the risk of suicide in inpatient behavioral environments and ultimately save lives.



Saloon-style bathroom door provides partial observation, retaining patient's privacy and dignity.

Solution

Through years of research, experience, and working together with clinical staff, Safehinge Primera learned that to be truly ligature-resistant, a move away from solid, fixed doors was needed. This prompted their load-release concept. They worked together with architects, clinicians and experts by lived experience to inform their design and develop the bathroom door.

When exploring options with The Office of Mental Health New York (OMH NY), they determined 11lbs as the upper limit for a safe release force. Safehinge Primera created and perfected an encased pivot design where no force greater than 11lbs can be sustained on the door – the door leaves simply detach.

The saloon-style leaves also provide a partial visual screen, enabling clinical staff to carry out a quick head and feet check, without encroaching on patients' privacy or dignity. They also worked to eliminate anchor points on both the hardware and the lightweight leaves.

Evaluation and Success

The ligature-resistant door originally launched in the UK in 2017. To date, over 4,000 Ligature-resistant Bathroom Doors have been installed globally with no incident. It is the only bathroom door design to be approved and featured in all three major U.S. design guides for behavioral health:

- Patient Safety Standards, Materials and Systems Guidelines from Office of Mental Health New York
- Veterans Affairs Inpatient Mental Health and Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program Design Guide
- Behavioral Health Design Guide by Behavioral Health Facility Consulting

The Safehinge Primera purpose is clear: to develop products that help to protect people through vulnerable times.

Safehinge Primera aims to raise awareness of the suicide risk presented within inpatient environments and develop safe, therapeutic solutions to reduce risk and improve the lives of patients and staff.

Features

- Bathroom door with no known ligature points
- Provides patient privacy and dignity without compromising on safety
- Pivots release at less than 11lbs weight in any direction – the OMH NY safe limit
- Ultra-lightweight nibs to minimize risk of weaponization
- Magnets are secured inside frame-mounted pivots and are inaccessible for tampering or ingestion



The beach scene design is often selected for the bathroom door. There are a variety of colors and designs to choose from to allow patients to personalize their space.



TOP: The Safehinge Primera Bathroom Door in the green color option, a choice popular amongst architects and designers.

BOTTOM: The Ligature-resistant Bathroom Door with the flags and flares imagery is designed by Hospital Rooms, the arts and mental health charity that is passionate about creating environments that facilitate creativity, hope and healing.

References: ¹ The University of Manchester National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Safety in Mental Health Annual Report 2022

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