What’s on CVC Level 2?

This is where you'll find many of the amenities that make the U-M Cardiovascular Center such an incredible place.

At the base of the atrium, an indoor garden with 30-foot-tall bamboo and other plants basks in the abundant natural light, while a pondless waterfall provides the soothing sound of trickling water. Benches and tables make this an inviting place to sit and take a break. There's also a door from the atrium to the CVC's outdoor garden, which includes a meditation spiral and many benches and pathways.

Nearby, the Atrium Healthy Heart Café offers a menu of tasty, flavorful and healthy foods and drinks served in healthy portions. In fact, 90 percent of the offerings meet the guidelines set by the U-M's MFit Heart Healthy eating program.

The café was developed by registered dietitians, nurses, exercise physiologists and others, with input from Florine Mark, founder of Weight Watchers and a member of the CVC's National Advisory Board. Even the vending machines on this level offer healthy selections. Bon appétit!

Just next to the café is the Wellness Resource Center, where patients and families can get answers to health and wellness questions. With the help of a medical librarian, visitors can browse materials from the Jack and Ellie Hill Reference Collection, and search for information online via computers with high-speed Internet. Also here: a small gift shop, with items selected by the Friends of the U-M Hospitals and Health Centers, the volunteer group that runs U-M's two hospital gift shops.

Just down the hall from the Wellness Center is the Patient Skills Lab, where health care professionals can work with patients and their families on the follow-up care techniques that they'll need to use at home.

Along the “wavy wall” of glass that leads to the skybridge to University Hospital, you'll find the entrance to the 100-seat Danto Auditorium. Named for generous donors Marvin and Betty Danto, it provides a place for health professionals and the public to gather for the latest updates on research, clinical care and other topics. Movable walls at the rear of the auditorium can create smaller classrooms that extend the seating to 145. This will also be a “virtual operating theater” – with advanced technology that will allow live, interactive viewing of surgical and interventional procedures being performed upstairs.

For patients and families, the CVC provides three quiet meditation rooms that create a serene place to go for prayer, reflection and respite. No food or drink, please! These are located on floors 2, 2A and 4.

Also on this level: the academic offices of many of our cardiologists, and offices for our administrative staff, as well as an employee entrance.

Is there a Level 1? Yes, but it's not yet open to the public. There are small elevator lobbies on levels B1 and B2 – patients and visitors may use the B1 level to access a tunnel that connects to level B1 of University Hospital.