Institut für
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Maja Kevdžija, born in 1989, works as an Assistant Professor (Tenure Track) in Healthcare Design. She studied architecture at the University of Belgrade (B.Arch.) and TU Delft (M.Sc.) and obtained her PhD in 2020 at the Faculty of Architecture at Technische Universität Dresden, Germany. Her PhD research study on Mobility-Supporting Rehabilitation Clinics for Stroke Patients was awarded multiple national and international awards, most notably the Healthcare Environment Award 2020 (USA), the 2021 European Heatlhcare Design Award in the Design Reseach category (UK) and the 2021 EDRA Certificate of Research Excellence (CORE) with Merit Status (USA). Her research work focuses on improving built environments for recovery after a stroke.

Education

- 2015 – 2020 **Doctorate** (Dr.-Ing.)
  TU Dresden, Faculty of Architecture, Chair of Social and Health Care Buildings and Design
  Thesis "Mobility-supporting rehabilitation clinics" awarded *summa cum laude*
- 2011 – 2013 **Master of Science in Architecture**
  TU Delft, Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment
- 2008 – 2011 **Bachelor of Architecture**
  University of Belgrade, Faculty of Architecture

Research Topics

- healthcare design
- evidence-based design
- environments for rehabilitation of stroke patients

Teaching Experience (selection)

- Mastermodul Data Driven Design for Social Infrastructure TU Wien, 2024 - present
  - VO Introduction to Advanced Data-driven Design for Social Infrastructure
  - VU Evidence-informed Design
- Writing Retreat II - scientific consolidation TU Wien, 2023, 2024
- Writing Retreat I - methodical approach TU Wien, 2023, 2023
- Sondermodul Sondermodul Advanced Architectural Design for Social Infrastructure, TU Wien, 2023, 2024
  - VO Introduction to Advanced Architectural Design for Healthcare
  - VU Evidence-informed Healthcare Design
- Wahlseminar Gebäudelehre - Healthcare Architecture Reserch, TU Wien, 2022 - present
- Seminar für DissertantInnen - Vertiefungsseminar Städtebau, TU Wien, 2022
- Spezialgebiete der Gebäudelehre - Healthcare and Dementia, TU Wien, 2021/2022
- Kleines Entwerfen "Social Infrastructure: Corona-Architecture", TU Wien, 2021
- Wissenschaftliche Arbeit + Vertiefungsmodul Gebäudelehre + Ausgewählte Kapitel 2 der Gebäudelehre-Krebstherapie und Architektur, TU Dresden, 2020/2021
- Wissenschaftliche Arbeit + Ausgewählte Kapitel 2 der Gebäudelehre - SMART EMERGENCY: Der neue Krankenhaustyp im Herzen der Stadt, TU Dresden, 2019/2020

- Entwurfskurs Stegreifentwerfen - SMART EMERGENCY: Ideen für die Notfallversorgung, TU Dresden, 2019/2020
- Architektur von Sozial- und Gesundheitsbauten, TU Dresden, 2018 - 2020

Publications

- **Kevdzija M.**, Bartha-Doering L., Heying R., Heylighen A., Jelić A., Jellema P., et al. (2025) Building support for children and families affected by stroke (BUILD CARE): Study protocol. *PLoS ONE* 20(2): e0308765.
- **Kevdzija, M.**, Brambilla, A., & Capolongo, S. (2024). Between Research and Practice: a Literature Review Protocol for examining practical implications of EBD Research studies. In I. Verma & L. Arpiainen (Eds.), *ARCH24 Design for Health and Wellbeing: Best practice papers from the 6th International Conference on Architecture, Research, Care and Health* (pp. 225–235). Aalto University.
- Jellema, P., Piet Tutenel, Moser, B., Schoss, A.-S., **Kevdzija, M.**, Jelić, A., & Heylighen, A. (2024). The space between procedural and situated ethics: Reflecting on the use of existing materials in design research on children affected by stroke. In C. Gray, E. Ciliotta Chehade, P. Hekkert, L. Forlano, P. Ciuccarelli & P. Lloyd (Eds.), *DRS2024: Research Papers.*
- **Kevdzija, M.** (2024). Shadowing Stroke Patients to Explore the Rehabilitation Built Environment: Approach, Insights, and Lessons Learned. *Qualitative Health Research*. 2024;0(0).
- Anåker, A., **Kevdzija, M.**, & Elf, M. (2024). Enriched environments in stroke units: defining characteristics and limitations. *HERD: Health Environments Research & Design Journal, 17(2), 344–359.*
- Marquardt, G., **Kevdzija, M.**, & Bueter, K. (2024). Architektur zur Unterstützung der Selbstständigkeit in stationären Wohn- und Behandlungsformen. In P. Gellert & H.-W. Wahl (Eds.), *Interventionsgerontologie: 100 Schlüsselbegriffe für Forschung, Lehre und Praxis* (pp. 548–554). Kohlhammer.
- Golgolnia, T., **Kevdzija, M.**, & Marquardt, G. (2024). Are We Speaking the Same Language? Terminology Consistency in EBD. *HERD: Health Environments Research & Design Journal,* 17(2), 77–96.
- Golgolnia, T., Kipouros, T., Clarkson, P. J., Marquardt, G., & **Kevdzija, M.** (2024). Implementing the model-based systems engineering (MBSE) approach to develop an assessment framework for healthcare facility design. *In Proceedings of the Design Society* (pp. 1577–1586). Cambridge University Press.
- Golgolnia, T., **Kevdzija, M.**, & Marquardt, G. (2023). Proposing a Systematic Assessment Tool for Evaluating the Architectural Variables of Dementia-Friendly Design in Nursing Homes. In J. Goodman-Deane, H. Dong, A. Heylighen, J. Lazar, & J. Clarkson (Eds.), Design for Sustainable Inclusion. CWUAAT 2023 (pp. 59–69).
- **Kevdzija, M.**, Laviano, A., Worf, I., Schuh, C., Tarantino, S., & Hiesmayr, M. (2023). Indirect Nutrition and Mobility Risks during Hospitalization: An Architectural Perspective on the nutritionDay Study Findings. *Nutrients*, 15(6), Article 1527.
- Getzner, M., Güntner, S., **Kevdzija, M.**, Knierbein, S., Renner, A.-T., & Semlitsch, E. (2023). Soziale Infrastrukturen. In M. Getzner, S. Güntner, M. Kevdžija, S. Knierbein, A.-T. Renner, & E. Semlitsch (Eds.), *Planung und räumliche Wirkungen von sozialen Infrastrukturen: Jahrbuch Raumplanung 2023* (Vol. 9, pp. 1–8). TU Wien Academic Press.
- **Kevdzija, M.** (2023). Rehabilitation Clinics that Enhance Stroke Recovery: Rethinking the Same-for-All Design Approach. In F. Ferdous & E. Roberts (Eds.), (*Re)designing the Continuum of Care for Older Adults* (pp. 123–143). Springer.
- **Kevdzija, M.**, & Marquardt, G. (2023). Mobility, independence, and spatial distance in rehabilitation centres for stroke. In Building Health and Wellbeing (pp. 139–163). Routledge.
- Kevdzija, M., Bozovic-Stamenovic, R., & Marquardt, G. (2022). Stroke Patients ' Free-Time Activities and Spatial Preferences During Inpatient Recovery in Rehabilitation Centers. *HERD: Health Environments Research & Design Journal,* 1–18.
- **Kevdzija, M.** (2022). “Everything looks the same”: wayfinding behaviour and experiences of stroke inpatients in rehabilitation clinics. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies on Health and Well-Being*, 17(1), 2087273.
- **Kevdzija, M.,** & Marquardt, G. (2022). Impact of distance on stroke inpatients’ mobility in rehabilitation clinics: a shadowing study. *Building Research & Information*, 50(1–2), 74–88.
- **Kevdzija, M.** (2022). A day in stroke rehabilitation: Exploring different inpatient experiences [preprint]. *The Evolving Scholar I ARCH22.*
- **Kevdzija, M.** (2022). Using shadowing for architectural research in healthcare environments: Opportunities and Challenges [preprint]. *The Evolving Scholar I ARCH22.*
- **Kevdzija, M.**, & Marquardt, G. (2021). Stroke patients’ nonscheduled activity during inpatient rehabilitation

and its relationship with the architectural layout: A multicenter shadowing study. *Topics in Stroke Rehabilitation,* 29(1), 9–15.
- **Kevdzija, M.** (2020). Mobility-supporting rehabilitation clinics - Architectural design criteria for promoting stroke patients' independent mobility and accommodating their changing spatial needs during the transition towards recovery (Doctoral dissertation, Technische Universität Dresden).
- **Kevdzija, M.,** & Marquardt, G. (2019). Mobility-Supporting Rehabilitation Clinics: Architectural Barriers and Facilitators to Mobility of Stroke Patients. *Sustainable Urban Environments: Research, Design and Planning for the Next 50 Years.* (conference proceedings)
- **Kevdzija, M.** (2019). Transitional Model for Stroke Rehabilitation Clinics: Translating Research Results into Design Recommendations. *Sustainable Urban Environments: Research, Design and Planning for the Next 50 Years.* (conference proceedings)
- **Kevdzija, M.**, & Marquardt, G. (2018). Physical Barriers to Mobility of Stroke Patients in Rehabilitation Clinics. In: Langdon P., Lazar J., Heylighen A., Dong H. (eds) *Breaking Down Barriers. CWUAAT 2018.* Springer, Cham

Research Projects

- 2025 - 2028 **GESTA - Die Generationen-freundliche Stadt. Schüler*innen, Studierende und alte Menschen erforschen den öffentlichen Raum in Wiener Neustadt**
  Sparkling Science 2.0
  Partners: FH Wiener Neustadt, Universität Wien, TU Wien
  Role: PI for Architecture at TU Wien

- 2022 - 2025 **BUILD CARE - Building Support for Children and Families Affected by Stroke**
  Horizon 2020 - EJP Cofund
  European Joint Programme on Rare Diseases - "Social sciences and Humanities Research to improve health care implementation and everyday life of people living with a rare disease"
  Partners: TU Wien, MedUni Wien, TU Dresden, KU Leuven
  Role: Project Coordinator, PI for Architecture at TU Wien

- 2015 - 2020 **Mobility-Supporting Rehabilitation Clinics**
  European Social Fund (ESF) and the Sächsische Aufbaubank
  Role: Individual PhD project

Presentations

- "Supporting and Promoting Patients' Activity during Rehabilitation". Fall 2024 Architecture for Health lecture series (Arch4Health), Houston, United States of America
- "Examining barriers and enablers in the implementation of health-promoting principles in the physical environment of European healthcare facilities. 30th International Conference on Health Promoting Hospitals and Health Services, Hiroshima, Japan (authors: Morhayim, L., Kevdzija, M., Sal Moslehian, A., Katsaros, K., & Miedema, E.)
- "Stroke rehabilitation and the built environment – Challenges and Opportunities". Seminar on Therapeutic spaces – Architectural strategies to promote health, Dalarna University, Sweden.
- "The role of the built environment in stroke patients' mobility and activity in rehabilitation. Exploring the relationship between the design of the built environment and stroke patient's needs", Center for Healthcare Architecture, Chalmers University, Sweden.
- "The role of the built environment in stroke survivors' mobility, activity and well-being". 4. Forschungssymposium der Fürst Donnersmarck-Stiftung - Wechselwirkungen. Neurologische Rehabilitation zwischen Forschung und Anwendung, Germany.
- The Role of Healthcare Environments in Everyday Lives and Well-Being of Families Affected By Childhood Stroke. EDRA54: Environment and Health: Global / Local Challenges and Actions, Mexico City, Mexico.
- "Using shadowing for architectural research in healthcare environments: Opportunities and Challenges" at ARCH22: Enabling health, care and well-being through design research, Delft, the Netherlands, 2022
- "A day in stroke rehabilitation: exploring different inpatient experiences" at ARCH22: Enabling health, care and well-being through design research, Delft, the Netherlands, 2022

- "Mobilitätsunterstützende Rehabilitationskliniken" at Bau und Betrieb von Rehakliniken und Reha-Einrichtungen, Berlin, Germany, 2022 (invited speaker)
- "Rethinking the Design of Stroke Rehabilitation Clinics" at EDRA52Detroit: Just Environments - Transdisciplinary Border Crossings conference, Detroit, USA (virtual conference due to COVID-19 pandemic), 2021
- "Should I stay or should I go? Observational research from a distance" as an invited speaker at the ARCOM Doctoral Workshop: Beyond Surveys and Interviews, UK (virtual), 2021
- "Transitional Model for Rehabilitation Clinics" at the award ceremony for the recipients of 2020 Healthcare Environment Awards at HCD - Healthcare Design Virtual Conference, 2020
- "Design guidelines for planning mobility-supporting rehabilitation clinics for stroke patients" at ESO-WSO 2020: Joint European and World Stroke Organization Conference, Vienna, Austria (Virtual conference due to Covid-19 pandemic), 2020
- Poster presentation "Architectural barriers to independent mobility of stroke patients in rehabilitation clinics" at ESO-WSO 2020: Joint European and World Stroke Organization Conference, Vienna, Austria (Virtual conference due to Covid-19 pandemic), 2020
- Poster presentation "Supporting and motivating independent mobility of stroke patients via rehabilitation clinic design" at ESO-WSO 2020: Joint European and World Stroke Organization Conference, Vienna, Austria (Virtual conference due to Covid-19 pandemic), 2020
- "Mobility-supporting rehabilitation clinics: Architectural barriers and facilitators to mobility of stroke patients" at EDRA50Brooklyn: Sustainable Urban Environments, Brooklyn, New York City, USA, 2019
- Poster presentation "The transitional model for stroke rehabilitation clinics: Translating research results into design recommendations" at EDRA50Brooklyn: Sustainable Urban Environments, Brooklyn, New York City, USA, 2019
- "Physical Barriers to Mobility of Stroke Patients in Rehabilitation Clinics" at IAPS 2018 Rome: Transitions to sustainability, lifestyles changes and human wellbeing: cultural, environmental and political challenges, Rome, Italy, 2018
- Poster presentation "Promoting mobility of stroke patients in rehabilitation clinics: The design of common rooms" at IAPS 2018 Rome: Transitions to sustainability, lifestyles changes and human wellbeing: cultural, environmental and political challenges, Rome, Italy, 2018
- "Physical barriers to mobility of stroke patients in rehabilitation clinics" at CWUAAT: Cambridge Workshop on Universal Access and Assistive Technology, Cambridge, United Kingdom, 2018
- Poster presentation "Promoting mobility: Stroke patients and the design of rehabilitation clinics" at CWUAAT: Cambridge Workshop on Universal Access and Assistive Technology, Cambridge, United Kingdom, 2018
- Poster presentation "Architectural facilitators and barriers to mobility of stroke patients in rehabilitation clinics" at EDRA48Madison: Voices of Place: Empower, Engage, Energize conference, Madison, Wisconsin, USA, 2017

Awards

- European Healthcare Design Award 2021 in the category Design Research Project, awarded by SALUS Global Knowledge Exchange and Architects for Health, UK
- EDRA Certificate of Research Excellence (CORE) 2021 with Merit Status, awarded by Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA), Pinole, California, USA
- Commendation, Forschungspreis 2021, Fürst Donnersmarck-Stiftung Berlin
- Dr. Walter Seipp-Preis 2020 for an outstanding PhD dissertation, awarded by Commerzbank-Stiftung
- 2020 Healthcare Environment Award, Student Winner for Post-Graduate Project, awarded by The Center for Health Design, Concord, California, USA
- Nomination, Dresden Excellence Award, City of Dresden, 2020
- Travel Award, Graduate Academy, TU Dresden in 2017, 2018 and 2020
- Award “Portfolio 33”, for 33 most talented architects in Serbia younger than 33, Arhitekton Magazine, 2013

Certifications

- EDAC certificate (Evidence-Based Design Accreditation and Certification), The Center for Health Design