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## Case Study

**Location:** Wauwatosa, WI

**Industry:** Healthcare

**Scope:** BIM, HVAC, Sheet Metal Fabrication, Medical Gas, Plumbing, Underground Utilities

**Contract Amount:** \$34 MN



Complex HVAC on first floor

**Building SqFt:** 320,000

**Owner:** Medical College of Wisconsin, Children's Research Institute

**General Contractor:** Gilbane

**Architect:** HGA

**Engineer:** BR+A

**Delivery Method:** Design Assist

**Contract Type:** Guaranteed Maximum Price

**Website:** [www.grunau.com](http://www.grunau.com)

# Medical College of Wisconsin, Children's Research Institute

The new biomedical research facility at the Medical College of Wisconsin/Children's Research Institute campus required highly complex HVAC and plumbing systems. Most of the building mandated absolute control of air pressure, air quality, humidity, temperature, sound and balance of airborne chemicals for complete sterilization which is critical to medical research projects.

Vivarium rooms and labs, where live animals are housed and researched, have individual specialty ventilation to the animal holding units, stainless steel piping for animal watering, and a vacusystem for animals' bedding. Decontamination showers for personnel were also among the specialty systems the Grunau mechanical team installed. Sterile medical gas was incorporated into numerous labs throughout the 320,000 square foot building. Steam-to-water heat exchangers were installed to provide hot water for heating the facility.

*"I do not think there is a better full-service mechanical contractor in this market, and I do not believe any stand behind their work like Grunau."*

*Survey response from Medical College key player*

After consulting with vivarium construction specialists, Grunau's team used their BIM expertise to detail design and strategically pre-plan the fabrication and installation of layers and layers of ductwork and piping. Mock-ups and models became a crucial step to making everything fit into place. The jobsite was surrounded by existing buildings so innovative solutions were required for material delivery, crane operation, pedestrian safety, and trade coordination. Project manager Ron Kwiatkowski said Grunau's Lean construction methods were beneficial to manage a project of this magnitude and work at maximum efficiency.



Steam Control Station