January 2, 2018

Director's Corner

Emergency Department - RCDP Sims
Harvey® Cardiopulmonary Sims
Emergency Medicine Resident Sims
Medical Scientist Training Program Sims
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Director's Corner
Marjorie Lee White, MD, MPPM, MA

December is often a "slow" month in the simulation arena as attention is turned to clinical care and to the holidays. Nevertheless, the simulation facilities at UAB remained busy - with new curriculum developed for the emergency department. If you haven't tried rapid cycle deliberate practice, please come talk to us about it! We've

Emergency Rapid Cycle Deliberate Practice Sims
Sarah Shipley BSN, RN, CEN
also made improvements to our debriefing courses based on feedback from our previous learners. If you'd like to learn more about debriefing, please consider taking our difficult debriefing course. It's applicable across many clinical settings. In addition, our team took the opportunity to reorganize our spaces and work on technical enhancements including expanding our capacity to integrate the electronic health record into simulation activity. I'm excited about these changes and what they will mean for learners in 2018!

On December 4, the Emergency Department partnered with OIPS to hold a simulation experience at the Center for Patient Safety and Advanced Medical Simulation. The simulation consisted of 19 nursing and pharmacy learners from the Emergency Department. Participants utilized the manikins and simulation space in Quarterback Tower in order to familiarize themselves with the Code Sepsis, Code Stroke and Code Blue processes at UAB. These learners are all new to the Emergency Department and were able to practice and sharpen their skills in a calm, friendly environment. Rapid Cycle Deliberate Practice was used with three different scenarios. Nurses and pharmacists were able to begin their assessments and care, receive constructive criticism, and redo their skills with their improved knowledge. After the experience, learners reported a better understanding of each process and the steps to take when faced with taking care of patients in these situations. The simulation environment allowed learners to step out of their comfort zone and learn without the fear of embarrassment or harm to a patient. Special thanks to the staff in the OIPS as they worked quickly with the Emergency Department educators to facilitate this incredible learning experience for our new nurses and pharmacist.

On November 30 and December 7, the School of Medicine partnered with OIPS to hold a simulation experience at the Volker Hall Simulation Sandbox. The simulation consisted of learners from the School of Medicine. Participants were fourth year medical students participating in the Clinical Skills Teaching Associate (CSTA) elective. The CSTA course provides an opportunity for fourth year students to serve as mentors and teachers for first and second year students in the Introduction to Clinical Medicine courses. Students utilized the Harvey® - The Cardiopulmonary Patient Simulator and simulation space in Volker Hall in order to deepen their knowledge and understanding of cardiac physical exam elements. Participants practiced palpating the point of maximal impulse and measuring venous pulsations with the help of standardized patients. They also listened to various heart murmur sounds with the Harvey® - The Cardiopulmonary Patient Simulator. We would like to thank Drs. Brown, McElwee, Payne, and Contratto for facilitating CSTA simulation sessions. This experience provided CSTAs with hands-on experience and foundation for teaching first and second year students as part of their cardiovascular curriculum.
On December 14, Emergency Medicine Department partnered with OIPS to hold a simulation experience at the Center for Patient Safety and Advanced Medical Simulation. The simulation consisted of 14 learners from Emergency Medicine. Participants utilized the simulation space in the Quarterback Tower sim lab in order to improve their communication skills in difficult scenarios of breaking bad news. The Department of Emergency Medicine along with counselors from the 1917 Clinic worked with simulated patients to improve the patient experience of patients that test positive for HIV. Participants were able to experience real time feedback of communication skills and were made aware of the resources available to patients at the 1917 clinic.

**Medical Scientist Training Programs Sims**

**Amanda Gargus, MSN, RN**

On December 4, the School of Medicine partnered with OIPS to hold a simulation experience at the Volker Hall Simulation Sandbox. The simulation consisted of 5 learners from the Medical Scientist Training Program. Participants utilized the simulation space in Volker Hall in order to participate in a simulated real life medical situation to prepare learners to care for real patients. Highlights and common themes of the experience included developing appropriate differential diagnosis for dyspnea, recognition and management of emergent cardiac issues.

**Pain Clinic Sims**

**Erin Blanchard, MSN, RN, CPAN & Peter Nagi, MD**

The Office of Interprofessional Simulation for Innovative Clinical Practice (OIPS) partnered with anesthesiologists specializing in pain medicine to offer an interprofessional simulation experience this past November to pain medicine fellows and Highlands Pain Clinic nurses. Three fellows and two nurses took part in immersive simulated patient encounters utilizing high-fidelity manikins. The simulations took place in the OIPS simulation lab, and cases were set both in procedural and post-operative settings. All participants strongly agreed that their teamwork/communication skills improved because of the experience, the experience was valuable and would improve performance in the actual clinic setting, and that they would recommend the event to others. One learner commented that they liked having "both nurses and physicians in the same sim," and another remarked that they "would like to come back." Future plans include continuing pain medicine simulations within the Pain Clinic itself and involving additional disciplines.

**Fundamentals of Critical Care Support**

**Erin Blanchard, MSN, RN, CPAN & Jose Humanez, MD**
In late November, the Office of Interprofessional Simulation for Innovative Clinical Practice (OIPS) partnered with the UAB Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine Division of Critical Care and Perioperative Medicine to pilot immersive simulations for the upcoming Fundamental Critical Care Support (FCCS) course. The FCCS course, developed by the Society for Critical Care Medicine, is scheduled for January 18-19, 2018. The course’s immersive simulations mirror the overall FCCS course objectives in focusing on the care of critically ill and injured patients. All learners either agreed or strongly agreed that the pilot experience was valuable, and, because they took part in it, their teamwork/communication skills improved. Both immersive and procedural simulation will be incorporated into the full FCCS course in January, with learners including physicians, nurse practitioners, respiratory therapists, and bedside nurses.

### Tech Update: Work Stations on Wheels

**Amanda Gargus, MSN, RN**

On December 6, OIPS educators, specialists, and techs met with Cherie Fancher, a functional analyst with HSIS at UAB to educate our team on how we can use the training area of UAB’s electronic health record (EHR) in our simulations. In October, we received three workstations on wheels (WOWs) and sunray cards. This training class will allow us to use these WOWs during any simulation. The class at the general service building (GSB) walked our team through how to add lab results and place orders for our simulated patients. We are very excited to have this option to incorporate the EHR as it brings more realism into our simulations. Current research shows that participation in EHR simulation improves EHR use and identification of patient safety issues. We look forward to working with our partners to add the EHR to current simulations. Special thanks to Cherie Fancher for all that she has done to help us navigate the training area in the EHR.

### Difficult Debriefings

**Dawn Taylor Peterson, PhD**

Debriefing can be challenging for any facilitator regardless of the learner group or years of experience. Practicing facilitating difficult debriefings is one of the best ways to handle these situations when they arise. OIPS has offered an Advanced Debriefing Course for the past 2 years. We have heard from some of our facilitators that the course did not provide enough opportunity for practice. In 2018, we will extend the length of this workshop to a half-day to allow for more practice rounds and will reframe the course to focus on difficult debriefing situations. The Difficult Debriefings Workshop is open to any facilitator who has completed Sim 1 and Sim 2. For more information on debriefing or on the workshop, please contact Dawn Taylor Peterson, PhD at dtpeterson@uab.edu.

### Moulage Basics Course Pilot

**David Mathews, Clinical Simulation Equipment Technician**
With the new year comes a new facilitator development workshop currently being piloted in-house by OIPS. Moulage Basics focuses on tools and techniques that can increase the realism of simulation scenarios. The word moulage is an art term meaning to mold and has been adopted by medical simulation which refers to the use of special f/x make-up as well as silicone prosthetics to mimic trauma related injuries or devices with the intention of adding realism and reinforcing the objectives of a specific simulated case. Added realism helps learners “buy in” to the simulation.

Areas of focus include: (1) standardized patient and manikin makeup (bruises, scrapes, rashes etc.), (2) setting the stage for a simulation using props (wardrobe, wigs, room setup etc.), (3) fidelity/realism (prosthetic wounds, bodily fluids, smells and distractions). The 90 minute course will supply the facilitator with creative and innovative solutions for staging a variety of simulation scenarios and an understanding of when, and more importantly, when not to use various elements of moulage.

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**Research News**

Shilpa Register, PhD, OD

As the calendar year closes, I wanted to send my sincere appreciation and thanks to all who have been involved in SimConnect. UAB’s SimConnect is a networking tool aimed at bringing together clinical simulation users from across campus with the common goal of improving simulation practices. We appreciate the time and effort from our 2017 facilitators including Kelley Catron (School of Nursing), Laurel Hitchcock (College of Arts & Sciences), Shawn Galin (Office of Standardized Patient Education), Lisa McCormick (School of Public Health), Marquita Hicks (School of Medicine), Diane Clark (School of Health Professions, Department of Physical Therapy), Neena Xavier (School of Health Professions, Department of Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences, Physician Assistant Studies), and Michelle Brown (School of Health Professions, Department of Health Services Administration). Special thanks to the participants and our dedicated OIPS Team. SimConnect is our monthly journal club that allows us to learn from current simulation research, and to gain ideas on ways to contribute to simulation research. Also, sincere thanks to all of our Principal Investigators, Co-Investigators, and grant recipients for continuing to contribute through scholarly work and research.

[Click here](#) to view simulation related research initiatives. If you have updates to your simulation research listing, please email Shilpa Register at [sregister@uabmc.edu](mailto:sregister@uabmc.edu).

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**Important Dates for Simulation Community and/or Facilitator Development**

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<td>January 30, 2018</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>February 1, 2018</td>
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<td>Introduction to TeamSTEPPS®</td>
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For Facilitator Development Opportunities, visit
Standing (left to right): Charlie Prince (Director of Operations), Andres Viles (Simulation Coordinator Senior), Marjorie Lee White (Director), Amanda Gargus (Clinical Simulation Specialist), Teldra McCord (Clinical Simulation Equipment Technician), Kelly Markham (Administrative Associate), Erin Blanchard (Simulation Educator Senior), Brian Mezzell (Communications Specialist), Betty Farley (Program Director III), Brad Bertke (Program Coordinator I), Shilpa Register (Director of Research), Shelby May (Clinical Simulation Equipment Technician), Fenil Patel (Simulation Coordinator), Ben Whitaker (Clinical Simulation Specialist)

Seated (left to right): Lisa Bagby (Director of Procedural Simulations), Tyler Burks (Manager - Clinical Simulation Operations - Audio Visual), Dawn Taylor Peterson (Director, Faculty Development & Training), David Mathews (Clinical Simulation Equipment Technician), April Belle (Director of In Situ Simulations), Joe Castongia (Clinical Simulation Equipment Technician)

For more information, please visit us on the web at http://www.uab.edu/simulation