Director's Corner

Marjorie Lee White, MD, MPPM, MA

February was a concentrated month at OIPS as our team worked collaboratively with many new partners to provide high quality simulation experiences and meet patient safety priorities. ECMO simulations provided an opportunity for outside
participants who attended a UAB Medicine symposium to experience simulation at its finest. We ventured into the operating rooms several times this month to look at improving processes and standardizing codes. Stay tuned for the launch of the perfect OR code video!

We've made new partners and are also trying to understand how we might roll out TeamSTEPPS® at UAB. It's my view that we won't make it to the top ten in quality if we don't address our teamwork and communication in a systematic way. Do you use CUS language? What do you think?

On February 17, the Department of Mechanical Circulatory Support partnered with OIPS to hold a simulation experience at the Quarterback Tower Simulation Lab. The simulation learners consisted of physicians, surgeons, nurses, and perfusionists. This simulation immersion was part of UAB Medicine’s first Extra Corporeal Life Support Symposium.

Participants utilized CAE’s iStan patient simulator, the EigenFlow ECMO simulator, and simulation space in Quarterback Tower in order to help team members troubleshoot clinical issues that may arise during an ECMO run.

With the assistance of members from the OIPS team, we were able to develop two high fidelity patient simulations utilizing the EigenFlow, two ECMO consoles, a ventilator, and infusion pumps. Common themes of the sim included teamwork, communication, and stress management. Prominent takeaways from the sim included protocol development, role definition, and safety precautions. We would like to extend a special thanks to Lisa Bagby, Ben Whitaker, Marjorie Lee White, MD, Robert Ledbetter, Mat Tyndal, and Shane Dunn for their hard work and dedication to the development of this simulation experience.

Dental Emergency Sims
Carly T. McKenzie, PhD

This February, the School of Dentistry partnered with OIPS to hold a simulation experience at the Quarterback Tower Sim Lab. Second-year pre-doctoral dental students participated in a series of medical emergency simulations. Approximately 30 learners were engaged in simulation activities. Participants utilized the QBT Sim Lab in order to practice effective management of some common medical emergencies encountered in the dental office. These simulations also focused on communication among members of a dental team during an unexpected health event in the office. School of Dentistry representatives Drs. Tilashalski, Abou-Arraj, and McKenzie developed the scenarios and facilitated the simulation experience. A special thanks to Dr. Dawn Taylor Peterson, Amanda Gargus, and Ben Whitaker for their assistance in making this experience a success.
OIPS partnered with content experts and educators in both the Perioperative Division and the Department of Anesthesiology to determine how the "perfect code" in an operating room or procedural area at UAB should transpire. Once the standard practice was agreed upon, the team gathered champions from leadership in nursing, anesthesia, and surgery to star in a "Code Blue in the OR" video.

The "Code Blue in the OR" video highlights how a perioperative team at UAB should come together to care for a coding patient in the operating room, including assigning roles, an expectation of where each person should stand, closed loop communication, and defibrillator use. Additionally, the video points out nuances that may differ slightly for different campuses or operative areas. The video will be utilized as an educational tool with perioperative staff.

Sepsis Tabletop 2.0
April Belle, MSN, RN

OIPS collaborated with UAB CARE to conduct a pilot tabletop simulation that focused on the Code Sepsis process. The Sepsis Tabletop 2.0 project provides a more interactive experience with the documentation of Code Sepsis for the interprofessional team. We recently hosted a simulation in the Acute Trauma Care Unit (ATCU). One purpose of this simulation was to examine successes and opportunities throughout the Code Sepsis process. Another purpose of this simulation was to create an interactive method for reinforcing Code Sepsis education to support UAB's mission of reducing mortality related to sepsis.

OIPS and UAB Care are planning to host monthly simulations in various practice areas to improve UAB's sepsis response and encourage urgency with the care of these patients. We hope to engage all members of the healthcare team who encounter patients with sepsis. After each simulation, a summary will be shared to discuss lessons learned surrounding teamwork and communication, identification and treatment of sepsis, and documentation of sepsis.
On February 13, OIPS partnered with the transplant team and the Alabama Organ Center (AOC) team to test the donor organ check-in process and the new ABO verification form. The simulation consisted of one team member from the AOC and one of the transplant operating room (OR) nurses going through the process of checking in a donor organ to be transplanted. Then the transplant OR nurse and a surgeon went through the process of filling out the ABO Verification form. The OIPS team created documents that mimicked our real documents but contained no real patient information. This was very helpful so we could perform the same process that we do with actual patients. We were able to walk through this process twice. Highlights and common themes of the experience included using closed loop communication, speaking up, and hard stops during both the donor check-in and the ABO verification process to ensure that all the information on the forms was correct. Having a simulation for these processes is important to ensure that there are no errors in the process and that the entire team understands the process. We were happy to assist OIPS in this development.

Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement Event
Sara Pereira, MD

On February 10, the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery partnered with OIPS to hold a simulation experience at the Volker Hall Simulation Sandbox. The simulation included surgery residents and fellows, medical students, and faculty from the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery.

Participants utilized an advanced computer simulator at the simulation space in Volker Hall in order to learn the steps of transcatheter aortic valve replacement. They initially watched videos in the laboratory and subsequently practiced the steps of the procedure using the actual devices and valves. The simulation was proceeded by a lecture on the technology and evolution of valve surgery by Dr. Sara Pereira. Highlights of the simulation experience included having the Edwards Corporate live simulator available for the day at UAB and inviting the candidates from around the United States that are interviewing for fellowship positions to attend. We appreciate the support of the Edwards and Abbott corporations in making the experience possible for all levels of students, residents, and fellows. Feedback from all attendees was overwhelmingly positive, and we look forward to making this event an annual experience for our program.

I/O Procedural Training
Lisa Bagby, MSN, RN

On February 22 and 23, OIPS partnered with the clinical educators from Teleflex to offer a train-the-trainer course for EZ-IO intraosseous needle insertion training. This session occurred in the Jefferson Tower Procedural Simulation Lab. The participants will facilitate future training at UAB and came from Medical ICU, Critical Care Transport, Emergency Department, and the Medical Emergency Team. The session included online training that was completed prior to the simulation session and a procedural simulation session. The train-the-trainer session was followed by a session where the newly trained facilitators were able to practice teaching end users with coaching from expert educators. The session was well received, both by the learners training to be facilitators and the end users who received the training.
Intro to TeamSTEPPS® Pilot
Andres Viles, MSN, RN & Michelle Brown, PhD

OIPS was excited to present its first TeamSTEPPS® Train the Trainer experience on February 6. Attendees representing various disciplines included physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists, social workers, care coordinators, and advanced practice providers. OIPS presented structured communication tools and activities in a modular format, enabling attendees to choose the tools that would benefit their unit the most. Three 30-minute activities were used to demonstrate the use of key TeamSTEPPS® tools. The session was designed to empower attendees to deploy the use of select TeamSTEPPS® strategies on their unit in partnership with an OIPS team member. The goal was to optimize team performance across the UAB Health System and ultimately provide safer care to our patients.

SimShare
Amanda Gargus, MSN, RN

On February 20, our first SimShare meeting of the year took place. SimShare meetings are a time when our local simulation communities come together and share thoughts and ideas to support each other. The main topic for this SimShare was “Challenges in Sim.” We engaged in discussions about:

- Compelling content experts to show up by escalating if necessary
- Creating new and/or refreshing operating room (OR) sim cases by focusing on the learner’s needs
- Locations to conduct in-situ simulations when the hospital is at capacity
- Local high schools that were opening new sim centers

Our next SimShare meeting is May 5, 2018. We hope to see all our sim friends there. Our topic will be "Innovations." What innovations have changed your sim center? What innovations would you like to have in your sim center? Have you initiated an innovation that didn't work out for your center? Let's talk about it! For questions about SimShare, please contact me at arwoodar@uab.edu.

Simulation Research Update

Wolfgang Muhlhofer Receives CTL - QEP Teaching Innovation Grant

Congratulations to Wolfgang Muhlhofer, MD on receiving a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) Teaching Innovation Grant by the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL).

Dr. Muhlhofer, an Assistant Professor of Neurology, is one of 10 awardees who received grants to promote innovative teaching methodologies. The main goal of his project is to assess whether the use of interprofessional patient simulation as part of the medical training may help to enhance understanding of each other’s role within a healthcare team consisting of medical, nursing and pharmacy students (aka future physicians, nurses and pharmacists) and whether simulation has a positive impact on the clinical, communication, and interpersonal skills of medical students in the clinical setting. The project will utilize a well-known tool, the Mini-CEX. This tool
is commonly used to determine behavioral outcomes of medical trainees in the clinical setting, but it has never been used as an assessment tool pre- and post-simulation to measure changes in clinical, communication, and interpersonal skills of pre-licensure providers. As such, one of the main focuses of the grant is to explore whether simulation leads to a measurable improvement on the Mini-CEX performance of medical students in the actual clinical world. To read more about the CTL-QEP grant awardees, visit this link.

Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America Talk

On January 24, Marjorie Lee White presented an invited talk “Get Your Sim On” at the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America/Center for Disease Control (SHEA/CDC) Outbreak Response Training Program (ORTP) in North Hollywood, California. This talk builds on the work done by the UAB NIEHS grant funded Deep South Biosafety Worker Training Program. To learn more about this program, please see www.soph.uab.edu/dsb.

Tech Update: Volker Hall A/V

Tyler Burks, Manager - Clinical Simulation Operations - A/V

The SimUAB Volker Hall sandbox has had a few audio visual upgrades in the last couple of years. Most recently, we have added a 55" TV with external audio for live observation of all four sim rooms. This is very helpful for our team in timing the transition between sims. Another great benefit of this system is that it allows for other facilitators to watch and listen to the learners without crowding the smaller control booths. They can talk freely while discussing their debriefing plan and be ready to go as soon as the scenario ends.

Team Highlight - High School Intern, Raven Chambers

Raven Chambers has been working with OIPS as a high school intern. She is part of a partner program between The Academies of Birmingham - Academy of Health Sciences and the Birmingham Education Foundation. These programs help prepare students for career and college success and allow students to apply what they’ve learned in a real-world setting through the Health Services Internship.

Raven is originally from Birmingham. She is a senior at George Washington Carver High School, and her favorite subject is science. Raven's parents have been married for 15 years, and she has two sisters and four brothers. She is the fourth child of seven in her family. The latest book Raven read was Othello, and she enjoys soccer, cooking, reading, and spending time on Pinterest. Her favorite food is chicken, and her next vacation will be to California. Raven mentioned that she is grateful to participate in an internship at UAB. "Because of the Academy of Health Sciences and the Birmingham Education Foundation, I was given this amazing opportunity to further my interest in Health Professions, and I'm working with incredible people at UAB.

Important Dates for Simulation Community and/or Facilitator Development

March 8, 2018 Sim 1
March 20, 2018  Difficult Debriefings Workshop
March 20, 2018  SimConnect
March 31, 2018  MOCA Course
April 10, 2018  SimConnect
April 26, 2018  Sim 2

For Facilitator Development Opportunities, visit
https://www.uab.edu/simulation/development-opportunities

Standing (left to right): Charlie Prince (Director of Operations), Andres Viles (Simulation Coordinator Senior), Marjorie Lee White (Director), Amanda Gargus (Clinical Simulation Coordinator), Teldra McCord (Clinical Simulation Equipment Technician), Kelly Markham (Administrative Associate), Erin Blanchard (RN 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 Castonga (Clinical Simulation Equipment Technician)

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