



Practice makes perfect

Improving engagement in departmental simulation teaching in Paediatrics

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BACKGROUND AND EVIDENCE

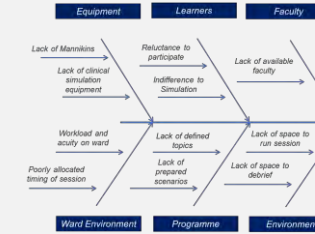
Simulation training is a powerful tool for delivering continuing medical education. Experience, feedback and structured debriefing helps learners to understand the concepts more clearly, practice in a safe environment at their own pace and acquire the skills and knowledge to appropriately manage critically unwell children and cardiac arrest.

A survey of junior doctors in my department found 100% felt simulation teaching was useful, with one junior commenting that "It's a great way to learn and practice things you don't usually have the chance to - under supervision".

PROBLEM

We use simulation to gain vital skills without harming patients. Current sessions are poorly planned and poorly executed. Frustrated, trainees don't attend and have a skills deficit for delivering care.

DIAGNOSTICS



AIM & MEASURE

Aim By 31/7/21, to improve the confidence and skills of junior doctors by increasing engagement with bi-monthly simulation sessions that are relevant to their training or RCPCH curriculum.

Chosen measure

Number of attendees per simulation session

Inclusions

All junior doctor attendees at the simulation session. Simulation sessions run within the General Paediatric department.

Exclusions

Simulation sessions in other departments such as NICU and PICU.

Other attendees such as nursing staff or students.

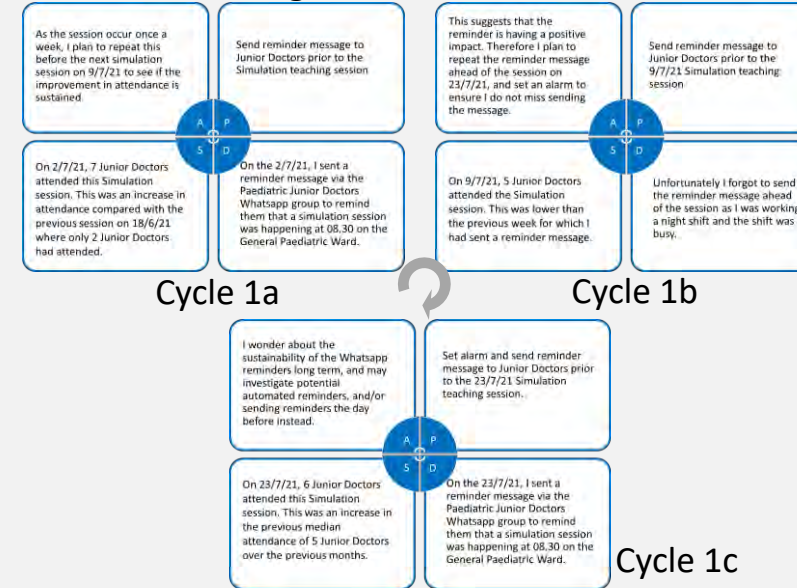
Sampling method & frequency

Weekly review of attendance.

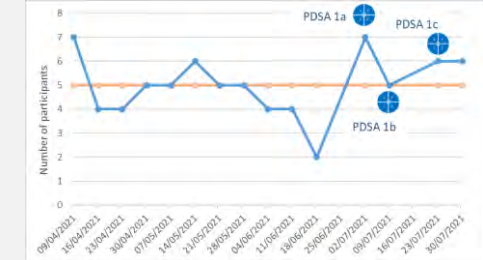
CHANGE IDEAS

1. Change time of session
2. Use higher fidelity equipment
3. Have dedicated space for simulation teaching
4. Ask learners which topics they would like covered
5. Send reminder email or message prior to each session
6. Simulation champions
7. Use actors to help with sessions
8. Provide coffee and snacks!
9. Involve multi-disciplinary team members
10. Offer assessments as standard

PDSA 1: Increasing Awareness



RUN CHART: Participant numbers



REFLECTIONS & LEARNING

- Sending a reminder message prior to the simulation session improved weekly attendance.
- However the sustainability of this is questionable.
- Other methods of maintaining visibility should be explored.
- Further development would explore the skills deficit of the junior doctors attending the sessions, and tailor the simulation sessions to their needs.

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