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Structured SIM training in an emergency department to improve staffs use of non-technical skills

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Technical skills are highly depending on Non-Technical Skills (NTS) when treating acute critical ill patients. A vital role in safety is the ability to adapt information, to maintain focus in decisions making. Furthermore, staffs have to be able to anticipate, identify and prevent errors. In our study, we investigated, if SIM training could improve the NTS in teams of physicians and nurses from a relative newly established department (ED) with 120 health workers. The goal was to investigate the effects of SIM training with NTS. The study was a prospective interventional study using “in situ” simulation scenarios inspired from cases with acute critical ill patients. Staff (N=70) were trained in the use of the ABCDE approach, closed loop and structured communication. Mixed groups of 5-7 physicians and nurses worked in three simulation scenarios on manikin for 6-7 hours. Each scenario was debriefed using the description, analysis and application method. The staff made a pre- and post self-evaluation on their NTS, rating the ability to use the NTS on a 5 step Likert scale. Data were tested with paired double-sided students T-test. After SIM, most of the participants reported an increase in self-efficacy with significance in 6 out of 12 questions, among these increased awareness of their role in teams. The facilitators observed that the teams became aware of the tools implicit in the NTS. We conclude that SIM training, for a majority of the participants, was an efficient tool to train Non-Technical Skills.

Biography

Diana Due graduated from Nykoebing Nursing School in 1989. She was a specialist nurse anesthetist in 1996, teaching at the ATCN- and Star program in Denmark. She is a Facilitator from CAMES1. She is currently working as a nurse in the Department of Anaesthesiology at Nykoebing Hospital.

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