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## NURSING CARE & NURSING EDUCATION

## July 08-09, 2019 Osaka, Japan

## Playing serious games: Human factor training within the emergency department

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S taff that are new to the resuscitation room often state they have never received formal training of nonclinical skills such as key communication techniques, role clarity or leadership strategies; yet it is expected to be practiced in high stress resuscitation situations. After conducting a needs assessment of staff working in the resuscitation room, nurses reported infrequent mention of these non-clinical skills in didactic educational sessions and decreased retention of what was mentioned. These skills are currently assumed to be naturally acquired through experience and professional maturation i.e. role modeling of colleagues. However this is not in line with evidenced based teamwork training practice. Currently there are no formal training programs in which the curriculum is specifically targeted at training nurses in such non-clinical skills. The Human Factor Training program aimed to provide this solution. Four interactive games were designed for staff to play in the workplace, to embed the knowledge and key terminology of certain non-clinical skills. These games were shown to translate to actual clinical practice. For example, the 'Heads Up' game aided staff in learning and then revising various role responsibilities in a resus. The introduction of fun, 10-minute interactive games for the nursing staff in the resus room has equipped them with a common language and skills not easily gained in the classroom setting. This has led to increased confidence at work and an improved culture of teamwork.

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