

Improving the relational aspects of trauma care through translational simulation

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Major trauma care is complex and requires individuals and teams to perform in high stakes, time critical situations. Teamwork behaviours have been a focus for improvement, however, team performance is also influenced by organizational culture. The impact of a well-established trauma simulation program on the relationships and culture of a trauma service were studied as part of a larger institutional ethnography.

Simulation and Relational Coordination

"I think the real value is getting to know our colleagues from other departments outside of a real-life stressful situation. That familiarity is then incredibly helpful when faced with a real trauma." - survey respondent



Simulation enabled **SHARED KNOWLEDGE** about roles



Simulation facilitated collaborative discussions about **SHARED GOALS** for complex patients



Simulation fostered **MUTUAL RESPECT** between participants from different clinical groups

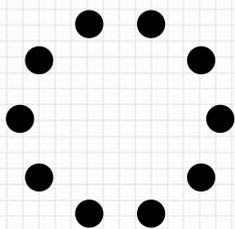
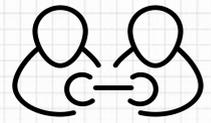
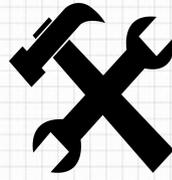
Simulation and Learning & Culture

Participants felt that simulation affected a number of important domains including:



The Simulation Experience

Task realism was important for participants but team and cognitive realism was also perceived as necessary for the above outcomes on culture and relationships.

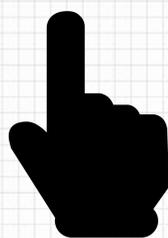


"There is a culture of mutual respect between the specialty teams involved which is fostered by the debrief and carries over into the real world." - survey participant

Relevance for your practice

Clinical Leaders

Simulation should be considered as a tool to build and strengthen relationships across traditional boundaries



Simulation Educators

Simulation educators can design exercises and structure debriefs with specific relational and cultural translational impact in mind

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<https://advancesinsimulation.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s41077-019-0100-2>