



Service Priorities and Programmes
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Mid-year Boot camp Simulation Training for Interns Improves understanding of human factors and perceived effectiveness of patient care and patient safety
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Introduction

Between October and December 2013, 300 medical interns were scheduled to go through a half-day simulation training session, which was a part of the HA central intern training program, at an assigned simulation centre (MDSSC, QEH, ICS, NDH, NCSTC, PYNEH). The class size was intense, with trainer-to-intern ratio at 1:5. The group went through an ice-breaking session, followed by three different simulation-based scenarios. Debriefing sessions were conducted immediately after each scenario by qualified Simulation instructors. Standardized patients were used to portray as patient's relatives in the scenarios.

Objectives

1. Introduce the key elements of patient safety to our interns; 2. Illustrate the importance of human factors and crew resource management (CRM) in daily clinical practice.

Methodology

Questionnaires were carefully designed to assess the interns' concepts on human factors, CRM, and patient safety before the course, and evaluate the effects of the boot camp training on these items after the course. Interns were required to complete the questionnaires before and after the training.

Result

Most of the interns agreed that the course was well-organized (98.3%), pitched at the right level for them (93.9%), and the contents were relevant to their daily practice (97%). After the boot camp, data analysis from the questionnaires showed there was

a significant increase in awareness on human factors in daily clinical practice, and agreement on using simulation training as tool for medical education (19.6 vs 17.6; $p = 0.04$). Interns agreed the training would improve the effectiveness of patient care and patients' safety. The CRM techniques that delivered in this boot camp training (Team work, effective communication, role prioritization, situation awareness) significantly heightened their awareness on the importance of these non-clinical skills, and strengthened their confidence on carrying out these skills and techniques in their daily clinical practice (19.6 vs 34.3, $P < 0.001$). Conclusion The concepts of patient safety and human factors were strengthened among interns after the mid-year boot camp simulation training.