Trauma Simulations: Beyond the Emergency Department

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BACKGROUND

- Complex trauma patients utilize resources from multiple departments while in the Emergency Department and continues through resuscitation.
- Clear concise communication between personnel is essential to providing optimal care.
- Opportunities for improving communication between departments were identified through review of care for critically ill trauma patients.

PURPOSE

Swedish Medical Center, a Level 1 Trauma Center has utilized trauma simulation training in the Emergency Department for several years. The goal was to integrate several departments into the simulation to improve patient care and communication during trauma activations.

IMPLEMENTATION

- Key stakeholders identified to include emergency department staff, trauma surgeon, trauma residents, trauma nurse coordinator, blood bank, operating room staff, anesthesia, and radiology.
- Collaborated to develop a trauma resuscitation scenario requiring interdepartmental communication and workflow through massive transfusion (MTP) and emergent surgical intervention.
- Implemented a pre and post quiz to evaluate effectiveness
- Implemented a debriefing process

RESULTS

Self Assessed Staff Confidence

MTP-Time to Plasma

Prior to Multidepartment Simulation

Post Multidepartment Simulation

31.5 minutes

3 minutes

MTP Ratios

CONCLUSION

- Better communication through simulation has improved MTP throughout trauma resuscitation.
- Staff report an increase in confidence in caring for trauma patients.
- Staff perception of hand off report has improved.
- Clear identification of issues through simulation decreases errors in patient care.

REFERENCES