



Children's
Healthcare of Atlanta

Standardized Patient Simulation to Recognize and Treat Behavioral Health Patients Safely in the Emergent Setting

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this Evidence Based Practice was to provide participants the opportunity to:

- ❖ practice recognizing the signs of escalation in agitation level
- ❖ utilize de-escalation techniques and therapeutic communication
- ❖ implement chemical or physical restraints in a safe learning environment

BACKGROUND

A learning needs assessment was conducted in the Emergency Department and the following were identified:

- ❖ further training on recognizing escalation in agitation level
- ❖ de-escalation techniques

DESCRIPTION

Simulation-based training utilized consisted of:

- ❖ 389 ED staff (Nurses/Medics/Technicians)
- ❖ simulated patient
- ❖ 106 sessions (45 minutes/session) in June, 2018

METHODS

Two simulation-based training series which incorporated:

- ❖ professional actor serving as the simulated patient
- ❖ realism of the patient encounter
- ❖ "patient" was trained to respond to interventions accordingly
- ❖ pre and post surveys

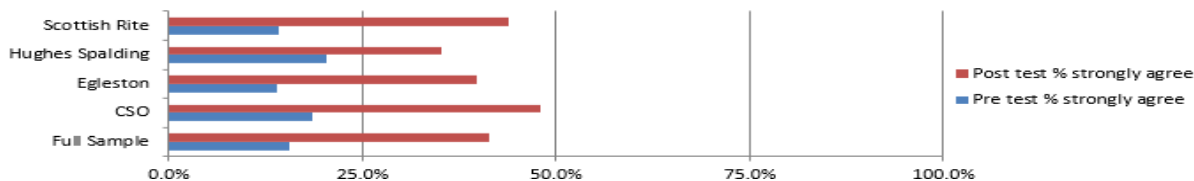


CONCLUSION

A seven question Likert scale revealed:

- ❖ confidence in the ability to safely care for and manage a violent or aggressive patient improved by 20% with a p value of <.0001
 - ❖ training has decreased the risk of injury to self or others
 - ❖ caring for violent or aggressive behavior improved by 30% with a p value of <.0001
- The team also revealed:
- ❖ overwhelmingly positive responses regarding the simulation series

Staff Training by Discipline to Decrease Risk of Injury to Self/Patients



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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