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Multi-disciplinary simulation training to improve management of pediatric emergencies

Mekhala Ayya

University of Liverpool, England
University of Oxford, England

Introduction: Pediatric simulations can be hugely beneficial to broaden knowledge, hone clinical, management and leadership skills in a safe environment.

Method: We established a simulation training program in a pediatric ward of a regional district hospital. We provided simulation training over a four-month period for medical, nursing and physician assistant staff. The scenarios were developed based on RCPCH recommendations. Feedback forms assessing the main outcomes were distributed following a simulation debriefs. We assessed the confidence of participants before and after attending sessions using a scale of 0-5 (very confident). We assessed key learning outcomes as described by the participants and how the session would influence their future practice. Targeted feedback, using a scoring system, was obtained about the relevance of the scenarios, the ability of sessions to highlight the strengths and gaps in knowledge and explore their response to pediatric emergencies. We reviewed the range of life support courses attended by the participants.

Results: We received 25 feedback forms from participants, of whom 44% were nurses. Prior to sessions, 56% scored their confidence as three out of five. Post training, 66% scored confidence at four and 33% scored five. Results showed that 88% found it relevant to their training, 64% reported that sessions helped to explore their response to pediatric emergencies and 60% found that the sessions highlighted their strengths and gaps in knowledge.

Conclusion: Our training demonstrated a marked increase in staff confidence levels with good attendance from nursing staff and documented relevance to training from the feedback provided

Biography

Mekhala Ayya is a Senior Pediatric Registrar, who has completed her Undergraduate Medical degree from the University of Liverpool and Post-graduate Master's degree in Evidence Based Health-Care from the University of Oxford. She has a keen interest in education and developed a lifesaving skills program for parents of young children in 2016 which was shown on national television. She began her Pediatric career at the Royal Children's Hospital in Brisbane, Australia. Then, she has completed her Junior Pediatric Training at Sheffield Children's Hospital, UK. Currently, she is a Senior Pediatric Registrar at Birmingham Children's Hospital, UK.

mekhala.ayya@nhs.net

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