

# SIMZINE

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SIMulation magaZINE



n.6 - Ottobre/October|Ottobre 2022



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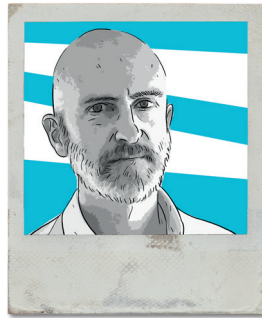


**Cover**  
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## EDITORIAL

## An answer for each question

Several times I have been asked why we launched the publication of a trade magazine. Why then in a niche sector such as healthcare training? And, moreover, why we did it in one of its sub-categories, simulation.

We too have wondered, we confess. Actually, I believe it comes from a need and a dream.

The need is what we feel as health professionals to talk and make people talk as much as possible about patient safety (also) through simulation. And here comes the dream. As an informational magazine, we want to play a key role in disseminating good practices and innovative ideas to the widest possible audience. We want to raise awareness of the solutions and applications made available not only by the industry but also those created by enthusiasts and geeks. The fervent scientific production and the growing pervasiveness of technology also in the world of simulation training make education an absolute protagonist in the cultural production and economic development of the sector. Our aim is to put the conversation at the center, that is, to create an area of dialogue, and to build a more aware community precisely through communication.

I was also asked why a printed and not just digital magazine. Why not communicate only through the web and social channels?

In a world where everything is now digital and ephemeral, we like to think that SIMZINE can also be something permanent, printed on paper and stored. We believe that

paper offers the tactile sensation of an engaging emotional experience, which people can experience at the exact moment they are ready for reading, that is, when they are ready to give their full attention. Paper is, in fact, tangible, it remains over time, creates a dynamic dialogue between text and image, plays with its shape, forces slowness and reflection, but it is also capable of generating relationships. That's why, in its printed version, SIMZINE was in Spain at SESAM22, then in Brazil at SUN22 and now in England at ASPiH22. And we don't want to stop. From this issue we will be regularly in print, as well as in Italy and Switzerland, also in Spain in various simulation centers.

Finally, they asked me why a multilingual magazine. Here the answer is simple! To reach as many readers as possible we have decided to publish not only in Italian, but also in English and Spanish at the moment. In this broader perspective, however, we have decided in this issue to create a "Italy special", that is, pages dedicated to content perhaps of greater interest to Italian simziners.

Having in mind that all publications are transformed once they are shared, they no longer belong to those who wrote them, but to those who read them, this number is now yours too.

Read it and enjoy it, as we enjoyed writing it.

P.L.I.

## Website

[www.simzine.it](http://www.simzine.it)

## Contacts:

amministrazione@simedita.it  
redazione@simzine.it  
ads@simzine.it

## Editor SIMedita srls

Pier Luigi Ingrassia, Presidente  
Giacomo Gensini, Consigliere  
Via Panciatichi 40/11 - 50127 Firenze

## Printing

Cartografia Toscana - Via Mammianese Nord - 51017 Pescia (PT)

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## Director

Pier Luigi Ingrassia

## Project Manager

Annalisa Pellicchia

## Graphic by

Pietro Cordini - Carlo Tizzi

## Web Developer

Vincenzo Garofalo

## Social Media Manager

Gianluca Nepi

## External relations

Giacomo Gensini

## Digital Marketing Specialist

Lucia Pampana

## Authors of this issue:

Inés Antunes  
Mario Bozhilov  
Giorgio Capogna  
Diana Carvalho  
Laws Chapman Colette  
Patrícia Conde  
Amy Cowperthwait  
Ana Cubo  
Remo De Donno  
Cristina Diaz Navarro  
Francesco DiMeco  
Laura Gonzalez  
Micheal Moneyppenny  
Paul O'Connor  
Alessandro Perin  
Vicente Prats  
Carla Sa Couto  
Antonio Scalogna  
Viktoriya Shkatova



READ THE PROGRAM



## ABOUTASPiH

## ASPiH 2022

### Paul O'Connor, on behalf of the Standards Working Group at ASPiH

#### What is ASPiH accreditation?

ASPiH awards accreditation to simulation educators, organisations, and programmes. Accreditation is a demonstration that best practices in simulation-based education (SBE) are being followed.

**What do I need to be ASPiH accredited?**  
To become accredited, individuals and organisations should be:

- delivering simulated-based education;
- able to provide evidence to support their application;
- able to meet the requirements of the standards for accreditation; and
- have either individual ASPiH membership or institutional membership whichever is appropriate to the application.

#### How do I become ASPiH accredited?

You need to complete an application, and provide evidence that you meet the required standards for accreditation. If you are applying for organisational accreditation, then there is also a need for a site visit and interviews with stakeholders about the SBE activities carried out by the organisation.

#### Why should I and/or my organisation become ASPiH accredited?

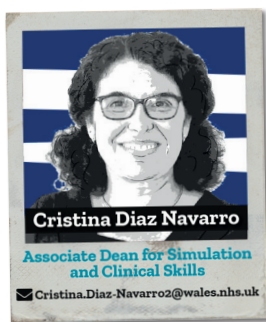
Accreditation demonstrates that you and/or your organisation are delivering SBE that is consistent with best practice. This is certainly beneficial from a reputation perspective. However, it also assures all stakeholders in healthcare that a high quality SBE is provided by the organisation or educator who holds the award. Where can I get more information on

#### ASPiH accreditation?

[aspih.org.uk/accreditation/](http://aspih.org.uk/accreditation/)



### Cristina Diaz-Navarro, on behalf of the Standards Working Group at ASPiH



I am delighted to have joined ASPiH's Executive Committee this year, and proud to be able to contribute to an exciting development: the review of the standards.

The ASPiH standards provide guidance for faculty, activity and resources in Simulation Education and Training. They are being updated following an internal review which took place last year. Our aim is to ensure that our reviewed standards meet the current needs of simulation faculty and learners, and reflect the way that simulation technology and practice continue to evolve internationally, with

a renewed focus on interprofessional simulation as well as equity, diversity and inclusion.

We are open to contributions to the development process and/or the review of the updated document, either during the current consultation period or at the ASPiH Annual Conference itself, which this year will be held in Birmingham. If you are interested, please contact us through [membership@aspih.org.uk](mailto:membership@aspih.org.uk).

Hoping to see you soon!

## Keynotes Speakers

### Day 1 – November 7th

Looking inward to improve - equity, diversity, and inclusivity in simulation

**Eve Purdy**

Emergency Medicine Physician and Applied Anthropologist, Gold Coast University Hospital, Australia

Simulated Patients – Are we Optimizing their Roles in Education?

**Karen Szauter**

Assistant Dean, Office of Educational Affairs and Professor, Department of Internal Medicine / Division of Gastroenterology, The University of Texas Medical Branch, USA

Integrating cultural dynamics for effective training in simulation

**Dr Sandeep Ganni**

Director of Smart Lab, GSL Medical college, India



## All Things Being Equitable: Diversity, inclusion and simulation

ASPiH, the Association for Simulated Practice in Healthcare (<https://aspih.org.uk>), are delighted to be included in this month's SIMZINE to share our upcoming conference and opportunities for the healthcare simulation community.

We are about to host our 13th ASPiH conference, our first face to face event since the 2020 pandemic, at the Hilton Metropole, Birmingham, England on the 6th to 8th November 2022.

Our conference, All Things Being Equitable: Diversity, inclusion and simulation offers us an opportunity to promote, strengthen, share and have meaningful reflections on the ways we can all work to improve and transform health and care for our patients and staff.

As simulation practitioners, who strive to provide psychological safety in our everyday practice, we aim for our conference to be the ideal space to get us talking more about the ways we might use, or experience simulation to talk about equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI), the culture and values, the hidden curriculum and some

of the inequalities and biases that exist in healthcare and healthcare simulation. We aim for conference 2022 to be the place that can help us all develop our understanding of how factors such as course design, language and faculty composition affect EDI as well as find out the latest innovations from our industry partners, both included within the programme and in the exhibition hall, presenters and Special Interest Groups.

The programme incorporates 4 pre-conference masterclasses, offering an in-depth opportunity to explore topics with subject matter experts, 6 plenary lectures, 22 sessions for abstract presentations, and 17 interactive workshops for all levels of simulationist including an ASPiH Special Interest Group (SIG) strand. And if you like something different - we have an Escape Room challenge for you!

To support our EDI theme, we have introduced registration rates this year that are based on income brackets; those who earn the least will be paying less this year than they did at our last face to face con-

ference. Those who earn the most will be paying a bit more. We hope that this shows our commitment to increasing accessibility to our events.

It's not too late to register your attendance – find out more and book here <https://www.aspihconference.co.uk/register/> ASPiH 2022 is 3 days of interactive networking and learning opportunities activities. Why not book a few extra days and also visit Birmingham and the local areas <https://www.aspihconference.co.uk/whats-nearby/>

Thank you to the Scientific and Programme Committees for their contributions to ASPiH 2022!



## A balance of the last years and transition of leadership

It was once declared that "History is dead!". Of course, events over the past couple of years have shown that this is certainly not the case. As the world turns and times change so does the presidency of ASPiH. The last two years have seen an expansion in membership, two very successful conferences and further benefits to our members such as webinars and Twitter chats. We have also said goodbye to some executive committee members and welcomed new ones. Their hard work along with our operations manager, Donna Major, make ASPiH possible. Although I get to write this little piece, they and you, our members, deserve all the prai-

se. I know how hard the last few years have been for many frontline health and social care staff. And for those who have lost loved ones to Covid-19, I am grateful that you continue to support us in supporting you to deliver effective, efficient, high-quality education, training and systems improvement. I cannot commend the next President enough to you. Colette Laws-Chapman has been the driving force behind the last few conferences. Her dedication is matched by her wit and sense of humour. I look forward to continuing to support her and you in the years to come.

Yours sincerely,  
Michael Moneyppenny, ASPiH president



### Day 2 – November 8th

Navigating the New Reality  
**Steve Shorrock**

Human Factors and Safety Specialist, EUROCONTROL and Editor-in-Chief of HindSight

Formula to safety: more than the sum of its parts  
**Dawn Benson**

National Investigator, Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch (HSIB)

**Lauren Morgan**

Chartered Human Factors specialist, Director, Morgan Human Systems



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## The journey of becoming a surgeon

### What it is like to become a surgeon through the words and thoughts of a resident: from watching a monitor in a darkened room to practicing with a simulator at home

It all started while I was a medical student. Every day I volunteered at one of the big hospitals in my city. Every single surgeon starts with watching the work process. It was the same with me. And that's how I got into the operating room where laparoscopic surgery was performed. As you know, surgeons perform the entire procedure via observation through the camera. But I remember the only thing I saw at that time was a monitor in a darkened room. I understood almost nothing. It was difficult to navigate and I hardly distinguished the individual anatomical structures I could see. From that moment on, my interest in minimally invasive surgery increased with each subsequent surgery. I was impressed with the

opportunities offered by this type of surgery. Everything was so elegant and it was done through very subtle movements. It took me a few months to get into the work process. Then I had the opportunity to take part in some surgeries.

Minimally invasive surgery, along with robotic surgery, is starting to increasingly displace conventional surgery. Laparoscopic surgery differs from open approach surgery at several fundamental levels. Mainly, these are two-dimensional view, lack of tactile feedback and depth perception, fulcrum effect (laparoscopic instruments are limited in their motion by the fixation enforced by the abdominal wall trocars) and different

ergonomics for the surgeon. These differences combined with basic anatomy are the main theoretical knowledge young surgeons should start with.

Watching an experienced surgeon perform a laparoscopy looks much easier than it is. A unique set of skills needs to be acquired to be a good surgical assistant in operations. After acquiring basic theoretical knowledge, my mentor sent me to try out the training simulators at this hospital. All the others have been practicing there. My first impression was that it was like a computer game. Oh, I love computer games. **After a few visits to the training room, I began to consider the possibility of having such a simu-**







**lator at home.** It is a very good long-term investment because you can train on it indefinitely. You can use it with your morning coffee or after a hard day at work. This could distinguish you from your other colleagues and give you more opportunities in the future, I thought. I took it as the kind of a game to play in my spare time. These were the reasons why I got my trainer.

In the beginning, I started with beginner tasks, in which you move diffe-

rent objects between your laparoscopic instruments and execute simple movements. Then I began to do more advanced tasks in which I performed complex movements, transferring objects through small obstacles. This included cutting with scissors different objects that you can draw on a white sheet. The 'final boss' was suturing. I decided to record videos of every single exercise and keep track of time. That's how I monitored my progress. I took the whole workout as a fun game in which I tried to enhan-

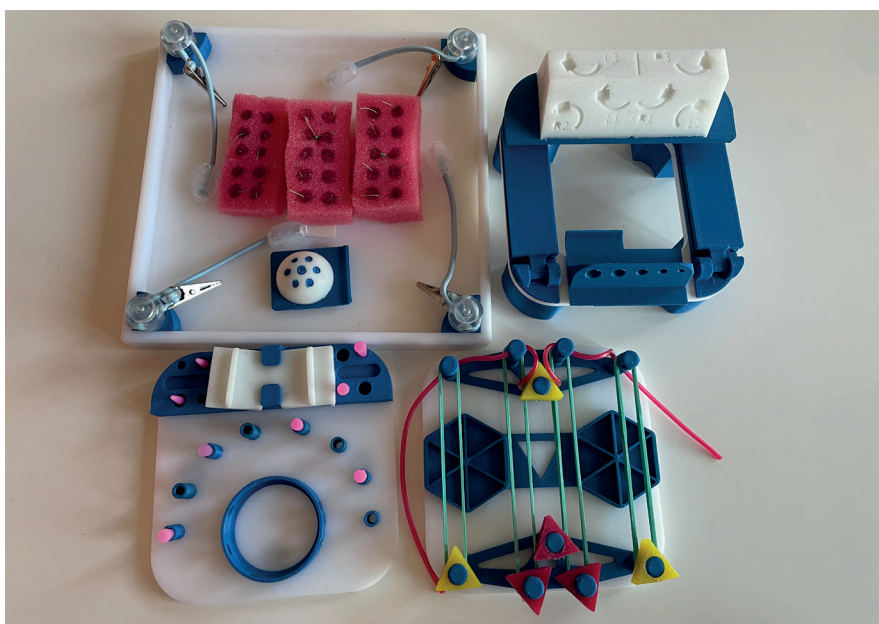
ce my technique and improve my time with every subsequent exercise. - Yes, I'm a competitive person - Thus, the time spent in training was not annoying and I had a lot of fun. Through these various tasks, all the basic movements needed for a novice assistant in the operation can be trained.

The journey of becoming a surgeon is difficult. The most important quality we need to apply every day is patience. One of my mentors has said that the learning process goes through 3 steps - watching, doing paperwork and finally practicing.



Through surgical simulators, it is now possible to train outside the hospital. They provide a secure method for training without the danger that comes with operations on real patients. They are highly engaging and immersive to the point that physicians forget they are in a simulation.

**A day without learning and practicing is a wasted day!**





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SIM VOICES

## Simulazione strategica: dal learning by doing al learning by feeling

**La simulazione strategica mira a produrre un'esperienza emozionale correttiva a cui segue una conversazione riflessiva per trasformare il cambiamento in apprendimento**

Quando si parla di **apprendimento** ci si riferisce ad un processo attraverso il quale un individuo, in una sequenza di esperienze o di insegnamenti, acquisisce nuove abilità, migliora quelle che già possiede o aggiunge nuove competenze, fino a sviluppare nuove capacità.

La simulazione è un metodo privilegiato di apprendimento, è un modello educativo per adulti che passa dall'esperienza diretta nella quale si entra completamente, rimanendone avvolti e catturati. Durante una simulazione i partecipanti sono «immersi» in un compito o in un ambiente come se si trattasse del mondo reale e l'apprendimento fatto durante lo scenario viene consolidato dalla successiva analisi di ciò che è stato fatto, ossia nel debriefing.

Il percorso dell'apprendimento, anche quello che si verifica con la simulazione, ha quindi a che vedere con ciò che impariamo sia attraverso ciò che pensiamo, sia attraverso ciò che sperimentiamo nelle azioni e che poi rielaboriamo.

La **simulazione strategica** introduce e aggiunge a tutto questo il con-

retto di **cambiamento**, che si riferisce a quando un individuo modifica il proprio modo di sentire e reagire alle cose. Se vogliamo innescare un processo di apprendimento, dobbiamo fare in modo che la persona impari qualcosa, mentre se vogliamo innescare un processo di cambiamento può essere sufficiente farglielo sperimentare. **L'apprendimento passa per il capire, mentre il cambiamento passa per il sentire.** Per cui per realizzare un obiettivo sulla base della teoria dell'apprendimento, si metterà in atto uno schema d'azione basato sull'insegnare a fare delle cose. È questa, in pratica, la formazione tradizionale. Se invece vogliamo realizzare un obiettivo sulla base del cambiamento, la formazione come sopra descritta non è più sufficiente. Bisognerà far sperimentare alle persone sensazioni nuove, ossia delle «esperienze emozionali correttive» che trasformano il modo di sentire le cose e che innescano reazioni a catena che cambiano completamente il rapporto tra l'individuo e la sua realtà. Le due visioni non sono opposte o alternative, ma sono complementari e strettamente legate: se il cambiamento non è seguito dall'apprendimento le acquisi-

zioni spesso non si stabilizzano. Ma allo stesso tempo, se si vuole ottenere un cambiamento attraverso l'apprendimento, ci si scontra con la resistenza al cambiamento, che è più forte dell'apprendimento stesso.

Sulla base di quanto detto, la simulazione strategica muove proprio dalla teoria del cambiamento: si cerca di produrre il prima possibile una esperienza emozionale correttiva e poi si spiega ciò che è avvenuto, trasformando il cambiamento in apprendimento, che gradualmente si trasformerà in acquisizione. In pratica la simulazione strategica prende le mosse dai principi del dialogo strategico e della comunicazione strategica applicando le nuove acquisizioni di neurofisiologia alla didattica.

È ormai acquisito che le dimensioni cognitive ed emotive sono strettamente intrecciate e concorrono a definire l'azione. Mentre il sistema cognitivo elabora costantemente le informazioni confrontandole, valutandole, archiviandole, scartandole, quello emotivo risponde attraverso modificazioni fisiche di reazione e risposta ancor più veloci del sistema cognitivo. Ciò significa che la conoscenza non si riduce al solo aspetto intellettuale ma riflette anche percezioni, emozioni, esperienze. Il sistema nervoso interagisce con l'ambiente modificando la propria struttura, neuronale ed immunologica. Questo implica che non solo l'intelligenza e la memoria ma anche le stesse capacità decisionali non sono mai esclusivamente razionali, ma sempre modulate in rapporto ad emozioni e sensazioni, rendendo inseparabili l'essere, il sentire e l'agire. Il sistema nervoso, quindi, non elabora semplicemente l'informazione ma è capace di generare un mondo attraverso il processo cognitivo.

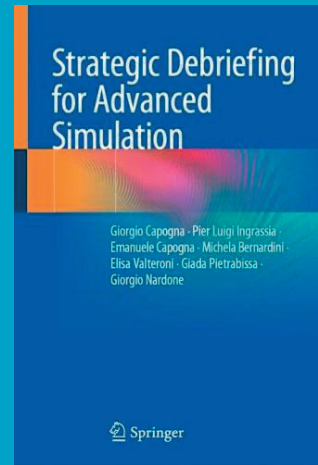


Sulla base di questi presupposti il modo di fare simulazione cambia con l'approccio strategico: essa diventa fonte e stimolo di cambiamento. Con la simulazione strategica si acquisisce la consapevolezza che le percezioni e le emozioni sono altrettanto importanti delle capacità cognitive, siano esse di natura tecnica o comportamentale e che è proprio attraverso il cambiamento indotto dal sistema emotivo percettivo che si può ottenere un apprendimento più solido, profondo e duraturo.



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**SIM CORNER**

## Take The Wind: a company sailing towards the future

Interview with Pedro Pinto, CEO of Take The Wind, a Portuguese company specialized in developing virtual patients simulators



**Pedro Pinto**

✉ [pedropinto@takethewind.com](mailto:pedropinto@takethewind.com)  
📺 [pedropinto70](#)

*"The future is in the air  
Can feel it everywhere  
Blowing with the wind of change"*

Allow us this musical quote, taken from the legendary song 'Wind of Change' by the Scorpions (if you don't know it, it's time to look for it on Spo-

tify). Even though it was 1990, these words seem to have been written to describe the vision of a company born 18 years later in Coimbra (Portugal), from the intuition and entrepreneurial spirit of Pedro Pinto.

Take The Wind is a company that projects us into the future, through the development of cutting-edge solutions for clinical education. Science, 3D design, and advanced technology are the ingredients of a perfect mix, which has allowed the creation of disruptive products such as Body Interact, a simulator of virtual patients that aims at fostering decision-making skills, through the interaction with hundreds of different clinical scenarios.

We talked with Pedro a lot, from the beginnings of his company to the future of virtual simulation. We wish the meeting had been on the beautiful terrace of Take the Wind's office, holding a glass of Porto, but we had to settle for a Zoom call (this time).

Well, interview spoilers are over! Hurry up and get on the boat, we are about to open the sails and set out to discover Take The Wind.

**SZ: Okay. Ready to sail off! Pedro, how did it all start?**

**PP:** All right. We started in 2008, and at that time it was a pure start-up company. We were just a bunch of people: a few 3D designers and scientists, plus one person for content development. Our market was the pharma industry, and the main goal of the company was to condense complex ideas in 3-4 minutes, by bringing together the visualization that science and technology enabled. We started producing a lot of 3D movies. Suddenly we realized that we needed to include more interaction in the movies, because it was a more effective learning tool for the users, as they had something to interact with and not just look at. So, we started producing decision aids to help doctors to talk with patients, featuring risk calculators and other kinds of functionalities. We still do this on a very small scale for some organizations in the US, like Mayo Clinic and Veterans Affairs. It's not our main business, of course, but it was our first step in the software world. And by then, we had spotted the market gap: it is essential to train the brain first. Like Einstein said, «education is not about lear-





ning facts. Learning facts, it's a part of education. Education is about to train the brain to think». We realized, then, that we needed a virtual patient to interact with, where we could combine our visualization and software technology capabilities with our creativity and design skills, and this is how we came up with Body Interact. This happened three years after the company was launched, and our first customers were Danish cardiologists,

graduate paramedics students, plus professional continuous development for around 30 specialties right now. Therefore, the company moved from being a service-based company to a product-based company, with one product featuring several applications. And it was a big challenge for the management to roll out these powerful products and keep profitability at the same time. A software is like an animal. On the one hand, you

who used Body Interact to train decision making and develop critical thinking.

This was just the beginning. Now we have expanded in high schools in the US, up to undergraduate medicine, graduate nursing and

always need to feed the animal. On the other, it's important to look for the best use cases that bring value to customers.

**SZ:** Regarding the future of 3D simulation, do you think that it will have an increasingly important role in the decision-making process?

KEEP READING ABOUT TTW

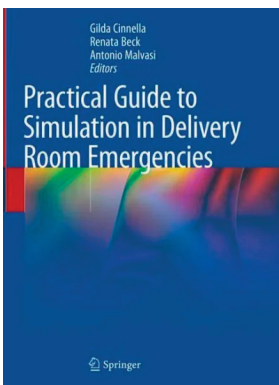


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[www.simzine.it](http://www.simzine.it)

Written with the contribution of *Take The Wind*



**Practical Guide to Simulation in Delivery Room Emergencies**



**Gilda Cinnella, Renata Beck, Antonio Malvasi**

Springer, 1st ed. 2023 edition - 978-3-031-10066-6 - [https://www.amazon.it/Practical-Guide-Simulation-Delivery-Emergencies/p/3031100662/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?qid=1663044180&refinements=p\\_27%3AGilda+Cinnella&s=books&sr=1-2](https://www.amazon.it/Practical-Guide-Simulation-Delivery-Emergencies/p/3031100662/ref=sr_1_2?qid=1663044180&refinements=p_27%3AGilda+Cinnella&s=books&sr=1-2)

This book demonstrates the use of simulation in emergencies in the delivery room and is intended to prepare gynecologists, anesthesiologists-resuscitators, obstetricians, and nurses to competently and safely deal with the most common urgent and emergency situations of both mother and child, who find themselves in a complex setting such as the place of childbirth. The book is accompanied by numerous drawings, photographs and videos of the simulation scenarios recorded with new generation simulators, suitable for both clinical maneuvers and ultrasound examinations. This book, unique in its kind, an essential tool for medical students, postgraduates, practicing pediatricians, anesthesiologists, obstetricians and all professionals who work in the delivery room, aims to help improve both technical and relational skills in the management of critical and emergency situations to ensure the safety of patients and operators.

Available from December 2022.

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Share and comment





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**DID YOU KNOW...**

## Simulazione e gemello digitale: nuovo paradigma in sanità

Oggi si parla di *gemello digitale*: una simulazione estremamente accurata e precisa del mondo fisico tanto da venire utilizzata per prendere decisioni. Adesso anche in sanità

Quando si parla di simulazione, si percepisce l'innovazione dello strumento in sé e le potenziali innovazioni che questa tecnologia può supportare. La norma UNI 11814 rilasciata nel maggio 2021 sottoscrive proprio questa sensazione, inserendo **Simulation and Digital Twin** tra le tecnologie abilitanti correlate alla gestione dell'innovazione ed in particolare tra le tecnologie abilitanti digitali e cyber-fisiche<sup>1</sup>.

Ormai da diverso tempo i professionisti del settore possono fare affidamento su disponibilità e potenza delle risorse di calcolo oltre che sull'accuratezza degli algoritmi, elementi che rendono le simulazioni sempre più accessibili, veloci ed affidabili.

Oggi un elemento chiave sta rivoluzionando il mondo della simulazione:

l'internet of things (IoT). La sopracitata norma UNI 11814 definisce l'IoT come un network di sistemi fisici, che possono interagire tra loro, grazie a protocolli standard di comunicazione. Attraverso una comunicazione multidirezionale tra processi, l'IoT permette di integrare le tecnologie dell'informazione (IT) con le tecnologie operative (OT).

È proprio la combinazione di disponibilità e potenza di calcolo con l'accuratezza delle soluzioni numeriche che permette la realizzazione di una nuova tecnologia, chiamata **gemello digitale**, che il progetto europeo Change2twin definisce in questo modo: " **A digital twin is a digital replica of an artefact, process or service, which is so accurate that it can be used as basis for taking decision. The**

**digital replica and the physical world are often connected by streams of data**"<sup>2</sup>. L'ultima parte della definizione suggerisce la chiave per portare il gemello digitale alla sua massima efficacia e robustezza: aggiungere alla combinazione disponibilità-potenza-accuratezza il collegamento con il gemello fisico, per mezzo dell'IoT.

Sempre più produttori ricorrono al gemello digitale per migliorare le prestazioni e prevenire guasti.

Esistono diversi tipi di gemello digitale, in funzione del collegamento e della retroazione tra la realtà fisica e la sua replica digitale. Il gemello digitale descrittivo riceve una collezione di dati (dataset) dal suo gemello fisico e ne mostra le informazioni più significative attraverso opportune dashboard, per identificare in tempo reale





eventuali criticità. Il gemello digitale predittivo, evoluzione del precedente, oltre a ricevere le informazioni dal gemello fisico, fa operazioni complesse come simulazioni numeriche ad alta fedeltà, per prevedere scenari futuri di comportamento. Infine il modello prescrittivo, soluzione più raffinata, è caratterizzato da un flusso multidirezionale di dati tra gemello digitale e fisico: il gemello digitale riceve continuamente un dataset aggiornato dalla sua controparte fisica, sul quale vengono applicate diverse tecniche, come regole di business, algoritmi di ricerca del minimo di funzioni obiettivo, machine learning e simulazioni numeriche ad alta fedeltà. Ciò permette sia di prevedere scenari futuri, ma soprattutto di proporre decisioni che ottimizzano tali scenari. Le decisioni proposte dall'intelligenza artificiale sono inviate al gemello fisico attraverso segnali e comandi, perché possano essere attuate nel mondo reale.

Il gemello digitale è oggi ampiamente utilizzato nelle aziende ad alta

tecnologia di diversi settori industriali. Sempre più aziende utilizzano il gemello digitale per affrontare sfide quotidiane, come l'ottimizzazione delle performance dei propri prodotti in fase di design e la manutenzione predittiva per la massima efficienza dei processi produttivi.

La buona notizia è che i primi pionieri stanno esplorando questa tecnologia anche per il settore medicale, per studiare il corpo umano e migliorare la qualità di vita! Enginsoft, azienda leader nel campo delle simulazioni, è coinvolta in diversi progetti di ricerca che applicano il gemello digitale nel settore medicale, una panoramica degli ultimi progressi nell'uso delle tecnologie CAE in questo settore è disponibile al link riportato in bibliografia<sup>3</sup>. Anche NTT Data è molto attiva su questo fronte, un articolo de Il Sole 24 ore di aprile riporta infatti la notizia che il colosso giapponese sta finanziando diversi progetti sull'utilizzo del gemello digitale per risolvere sfide legate alla salute, anche in Italia<sup>4</sup>.



1. UNI 11814: <https://store.uni.com/p/UNI1609356/uni-11814-2021/UNI1609356>
2. Change2twin: <https://www.change2twin.eu/>
3. Enginsoft: <https://www.enginsoft.com/expertise/tools-and-methodologies-for-generating-digital-twins-in-medical-research.html>
4. Il sole 24 ore su Ntt Data: <https://www.ilsole24ore.com/art/ntt-data-porta-cosenza-dei-tre-poli-mondiali-sull-intelligenza-artificiale-AEudXuSB>



Choose your language



# Does neonatal simulation work?

## Can neonatal simulation training improve outcomes in high-resource facilities? An Austrian team has been studying the issue for 8 years

Welcome back to our pub!

If you like low fermentation beers, just for today, we have a box of Viennese Lagers for you to try. During the summer holidays, our brewmaster found a brewery in Vienna that took 8 years to produce this amber. And also for that reason, the result on the palate is exceptional!

In this brewery between 2012 and 2019 neonatal mortality data were collected and the level of intervention received by infants immediately after birth was monitored for their stabilization: A) patients who received short-term non-invasive ventilation B) patients who received non-invasive ventilation prolonged invasive and C) patients who received ventilation and chest compressions (with/without drugs). Premature infants (gestational age <37 weeks) were excluded from the analysis because they are more likely to require ventilatory support after birth than term infants.

In 2015, a training program designed in two formats was launched: low-fidelity neonatal simulation and high-fidelity neonatal simulation, both carried out by multidisciplinary teams. The data, therefore, was divided into two groups: those relating to the 2012-2014 period, that is, before the completion of the training, were considered pre-training; those relating to 2015-2019 were considered post-training.

The Viennese teachers tried to understand whether simulation training would improve outcomes and reduce interventions on young patients in high-resource neonatal facilities.

Of 13,950 babies born during the study period, 826 full-term babies received one of three le-

vels of intervention for adjustment after birth. A total of 284 (34.4%) patients received short-term noninvasive ventilation (A), 477 (57.8%) prolonged ventilation (B), and 65 (7.9%) chest compressions (C), respectively. Comparing the periods before and after training, no significant reduction in mortality was found and no significant changes were found in groups A and B. However, the risk of chest compressions (group C) decreased significantly from 0.91% in the pre-training period, to 0.20% in the post-training period ( $p < 0.001$ ).

In general, when looking at the impact of training on simulation, it should always be kept in mind that a highly complex brewery probably cannot be changed (sufficiently) with single, isolated training events. Instead, a comprehensive and well-thought-out set of interrelated measures is needed to effectively demonstrate the significant effect of simulation training in improving patient safety, quality of care, and the production of great beers. This recipe has shown that regular simulation training can improve patient outcomes in high-resource settings and that, if a large number of cases cannot be obtained, studies of the effect of training in neonatology are recommended to measure parameters of indirect outcomes such as decreased need for chest compressions shortly after birth.

I hope you have enjoyed this tasting, I look forward to our next meeting!

See you soon,  
your brewmaster

Schwindt EM, Stockenhuber R, Kainz T, Stumptner N, Henkel M, Hefler L, Schwindt JC. Neonatal simulation training decreases the incidence of chest compressions in term newborns. *Resuscitation*. 2022 Sep;178:109-115. doi: 10.1016/j.resuscitation.2022.06.006. Epub 2022 Jun 11. PMID: 35700883.







Choose your language

## SPECIALE ITALIA

### NEXUS PROJECT, la simulazione direttamente sul territorio

**Nato dalle esigenze formative del SET 118 Modena Soccorso, il NEXUS PROJECT mixa modalità di simulazione diverse e pone l'attenzione sulle non-technical skills degli operatori del territorio**

Negli ultimi 30 anni si è sempre più prestato attenzione a come il fattore umano rappresenti una variabile capace di modificare gli esiti dell'assistenza sanitaria erogata ai pazienti. Nonostante ciò, sono ancora limitate le realtà che includono e investono in una formazione adeguata che vada a potenziare le capacità relazionali e sociali, più in generale note come non-technical skills.



Il NEXUS PROJECT nasce nel Maggio 2021 in Azienda USL Modena anche in risposta ad eventi e cambiamenti causati dalla Pandemia da SARS-CoV-2, fattore determinante che ha influenzato lo status quo del Sistema Sanitario Nazionale, con l'obiettivo di sensibilizzare i professionisti sanitari a lavorare su sé stessi, non esclusivamente come operatori dipendenti, ma anche come persone in quanto tali. Comunicazione, Leadership, Decision-making e prevenzione dei bias cognitivi sono stati gli hot topics approfonditi da 15 professionisti, appartenenti al SET 118 Modena Soccorso e VVF del Comando provinciale di Modena, durante il Corso sperimentale di Fase 1 NEXUS.

Durante le due giornate di training intensivo, i partecipanti, non essendo chiamati a eseguire tutte quelle procedure tecniche che quotidianamente vengono messe in pratica, si sono potuti esercitare ponendo il focus sulle competenze non tecniche, sul lavoro

in team, la comunicazione interdisciplinare, il processo decisionale e le strategie di debiasing. La base teorica delle lezioni plenarie era composta dalle evidenze scientifiche più aggiornate e disponibili sui principali portali di ricerca e sono state presentate mediante diverse metodologie didattiche come brainstorming, learning conversation, quiz dinamici, Problem-Based Learning, simulazioni a bassa fedeltà ispirate all'Emergo Train Sistem (ETS) e simulazioni ad alta fedeltà.

Il NEXUS PROJECT vanta di essere uno dei primi progetti di ricerca in Italia a portare la simulazione ad alta fedeltà direttamente sul territorio, grazie alla ristrutturazione di un'ambulanza dismessa equipaggiata da un sistema informatico di simulazione all'avanguardia.

Avvalendosi di quattro terminali Ipad rispettivamente con la funzione di: monitor-defibrillatore Lifepack 15, controllore, cartella clinica informatizzata e modulo di registrazione audio-video, gli Istruttori erano in grado di costruire scenari fedeli alla realtà clinica e simulare le alterazioni fisiopatologiche dei parametri vitali in tempo reale. Con l'aiuto dell'infrastruttura tecnologica ideata e progettata interamente dal Team di ricerca, e al moto del mezzo equiparabile a un mezzo standard operativo, è stato possibile offrire un realismo adeguato in contrapposizione al classico "fai finta che".

Infatti, in alcune simulazioni è anche stata utilizzata tutta la strumentazione necessaria in dotazione ai Vigili del Fuoco per effettuare l'estrazione del paziente in sicurezza. In alcuni scenari, è stato utilizzato il paziente standardizzato, un attore preparato e addestrato a simulare tutti i sintomi psicofisici delle patologie

presentate durante le due giornate. Durante il successivo debriefing, il punto di vista del paziente ha avuto un peso importante, fornendo informazioni importanti riguardanti la sicurezza e l'ansia percepita durante lo scenario, aspetti che diversamente, nelle situazioni reali, non riescono ad essere compresi a fondo.

In conclusione, al termine del corso è stato somministrato un questionario di gradimento in forma anonima, in cui tra gli altri quesiti è stato anche chiesto di dare un giudizio generale in una scala da 0 a 10. Seppur limitata, l'analisi dei dati ha evidenziato un indice di gradimento medio di 8,93 (DS = 1,39) con un tasso di risposta pari al 100% (n=15) e.

L'evento rappresenta l'inizio di un percorso di innovazione del paradigma formativo a livello aziendale, mettendo in luce la necessità di utilizzare la simulazione ad alta fedeltà e di porre attenzione alle non-technical skills come strumenti per incrementare la qualità delle cure erogate, la sicurezza nei confronti dei pazienti e migliorare l'utilizzo della risorsa che nell'emergenza è la più preziosa di tutte: il tempo!



**Alberto Di Martino**  
Infermiere SET 118 Modena Soccorso

**Luca Gelati**  
Direttore professioni sanitarie Azienda USL di Modena



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SPECIALE ITALIA



## La simulazione ai tempi del COVID

Come la simulazione ha giocato un ruolo chiave durante un'emergenza nell'emergenza: il racconto, e il vissuto, di un infermiere di Terapia Intensiva

Mi chiamo Daniele. Sono un infermiere calabrese con 16 anni di servizio in Rianimazione, UTI CCH al Policlinico universitario Materdomini di Catanzaro.

Volevo condividere con voi colleghi la mia esperienza lavorativa e simulativa durante la pandemia da SARS-CoV-2 nella mia struttura.

Eravamo alla fine del 2020, la Calabria era stata toccata lievemente in termini di casi di malattia e decessi durante la prima ondata. Tuttavia, visto che il trend mensile dei positivi non accennava a diminuire, le Aziende Sanitarie, compresa la mia, hanno iniziato ad assumere varie figure sanitarie, tra cui nuovi infermieri, per fronteggiare la pandemia.

*Eroi!* è così che il personale sanitario è stato chiamato per mesi dai media. Alcuni con consistente esperienza, molti altri però con poca o nessuna, gli operatori sono stati destinati ai reparti di malattie infettive e soprattutto alle terapie intensive, dove il livello di assistenza è estremamente elevato e richiede delle conoscenze e competenze da parte dell'in-

fermiere che non si acquisiscono in brevi periodi.

Le circostanze, come potete immaginare bene, non erano delle migliori. Vedevo e vivevo ora dopo ora situazioni ed emozioni estreme: rabbia, tensione, paura. Spesso lo sconforto e la scarsa organizzazione facevano da padrone.

Fui, quindi, contattato dai miei responsabili d'area, primario, vice e coordinatrice, che mi diedero il compito di coordinare e formare i nuovi neo-assunti con lo scopo di poter fronteggiare al meglio la nuova ondata che si apprestava ad arrivare.

Il tempo e i dati pandemici non erano della nostra parte. Il processo di formazione e condivisione doveva essere il più veloce possibile. Fu così che durante i primi turni in area COVID19 pensai di poter venire incontro alle numerose esigenze del gruppo infermieristico ed OSS organizzando brevi sessioni di formazione in simulazione in una stanza dedicata fuori dal reparto COVID19.

Questa stanza fu creata ed allestita in pochi giorni nei momenti liberi

dopo il turno: riproduceva in maniera molto realistica e fedele la postazione/box UTI con relative colonne, dispositivi elettromedicali, presidi, farmaci utilizzati e ovviamente il paziente ricoverato.

La parte più difficile di quei turni extra era trovare un manichino che potesse simulare le varie situazioni, tutto era fermo per il lockdown! E fu così che mi guardai intorno e vidi qualcosa che aveva una sagoma di una persona adulta, le tute difettose che si accumulavano di turno in turno. Ne presi una, iniziai a riempirla con cuscini di varie dimensioni per darle spessore, poggiai la tuta su un lettino ambulatoriale in disuso trovato in deposito, aggiunsi dei calzari riempiti per fare i piedi destro e sinistro, riempii dei guanti monouso con acqua per creare le mani. Tutto prendeva forma. La stanchezza dei turni extra iniziava a farsi sentire, ma la voglia di poter dare una mano ai colleghi appena arrivati mi dava la forza di andare avanti ed osare di più. Mancava solo la testa, la parte più importante. Ricordai di avere a casa una maschera bianca utilizzata a carnevale. Aggiunsi dei fori in prossimità del naso e della bocca. Osai ancora di più: con un polmone test collegato ad un ventilatore meccanico a turbina, tramite tubo endotracheale fatto passare dal foro fatto sulla bocca e posizionato nel torace, simulavamo i polmoni e conseguente espansione toracica. Con un altro pallone, posto più in basso, nell'addome, simulai lo stomaco con relativo SNG fatto passare attraverso il foro fatto alle narici. Poi collegai un catetere vescicale ad un deflussore classico con una sacca da 1000 di fisiologica per simulare la diuresi.



CONTINUA A LEGGERE



Choose your language



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SPECIALIA

## SoFraPa, l'avanguardia della simulazione medica in Italia

**SoFraPa - Emergency Training Specialist - si propone sul mercato italiano della formazione medica, del soccorso e della sicurezza aziendale come il punto di riferimento per la fornitura di Materiale Didattico e Simulatori Medici**

SoFraPa - Emergency Training Specialist - è una delle poche aziende capaci di guidare l'innovazione nel mercato della simulazione clinica in Italia. L'obiettivo di SoFraPa è quello di essere il fornitore di riferimento non soltanto di coloro che si occupano di simulazione medica, ma bensì di tutti i formatori, privati e pubblici, impegnati nell'erogazione di corsi di formazione in primo soccorso, emergenza medica, sicurezza sul lavoro e soccorso tecnico.

La passione per le nuove tecnologie e la continua ricerca in campo internazionale di dispositivi didattici ha portato in pochi anni l'e-commerce Sofrapa Store ad evolversi da un catalogo online dedicato all'istruttore di primo soccorso - e pertanto incentrato sulla proposta di simulatori medici di base, come manichini per RCP e defibrillatori da addestramento per la formazione BLS e BLS-D - ad un'ampia raccolta di prodotti selezionati e servizi che mirano a soddisfare a tutto tondo le esigenze tecniche e d'investimento di tutti i formatori italiani, sia del settore sanitario che della sicurezza.

SoFraPa è attualmente distributore esclusivo per l'Italia di simulatori medici all'avanguardia, come: i manichini iperrealistici LifeCast Body Simulation, i simulatori medici virtuali REALITi360 e CTGi prodotti da iSi-

mulate, i manichini a peso reale Ruth Lee, i simulatori d'incendio ed effetti speciali di derivazione teatrale Fireware, la gamma completa di manichini per rianimazione cardiopolmonare Prati-Man e i simulatori di ferite ed emorragie massive a marchio TrueClot e Trauma-Sim. SoFraPa è inoltre importatore della linea più completa e più venduta in Italia di AED Trainer per corsi BLS-D, oltre che distributore esclusivo e rivenditore autorizzato di marchi come Ambu - Linea Training - e altri marchi di fama nazionale e internazionale, i cui prodotti sono stati accuratamente valutati e selezionati al fine di creare un



dei clienti grazie al proprio SoFraPa Van, il servizio di allestimento di scenari di simulazione completi e l'organizzazione sia di corsi di formazione finalizzati all'utilizzo dei simulatori medici commercializzati, che quelli di trucco e moulage per simulazioni rivolti a istruttori e facilitatori del settore sanitario e della sicurezza sul lavoro.

"La simulazione deve differire dalla realtà solo per un aspetto: il controllo", questo è il concetto di formazione nel quale

SoFraPa - Emergency Training Specialist crede e l'ambizioso obiettivo che mira a far raggiungere ai clienti attraverso la fornitura dei propri prodotti e servizi.



**SoFraPa**  
EMERGENCY TRAINING SPECIALIST

esclusivo catalogo di riferimento per coloro che si occupano di formazione sanitaria, professionale e civile.

Il canale di vendita online Sofrapa Store è l'unico in Italia a fornire la consegna in 24 ore del 90% dei prodotti a catalogo e il servizio clienti disponibile dalle 8.00 alle 22.00. Oltre a questi servizi dal valore aggiunto, SoFraPa offre il ritiro e valutazione dei simulatori medici usati, la redazione di preventivi personalizzati, la fornitura con numerose formule di pagamento dilazionato e la costante proposta di numerosi kit istruttore dall'eccellente rapporto qualità/prezzo. A queste attività si affiancano la disponibilità di uno show-room allestito presso la propria sede di Calenzano (FI), la possibilità di organizzare visite e dimostrazioni presso le sedi



Scritto con il contributo di SoFraPa



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**SPECIALE ITALIA**

## Dirigere un Centro di Simulazione? Stefano Sironi ce lo spiega

Dopo un debriefer, un tecnico e una psicologa, adesso è arrivato il momento di conoscere chi gestisce tutto il sistema, il direttore del Centro SIM. Abbiamo intervistato Stefano Sironi, responsabile dell'International Research & Teaching Center di AREU



### Stefano Sironi

Responsabile dell'International Research & Teaching Center di AREU

✉ s.sironi@areu.lombardia.it

**La prima domanda è ovviamente sempre questa: come ti sei avvicinato alla simulazione?**

Wow...!! che bella domanda...;-)

In realtà, nel 2010 approdai in AREU con il mandato (molto generico) di occuparmi della formazione degli operatori sanitari. Già mi occupavo da più di un decennio di formazione e anche simulazione a bassa-media fedeltà per la gestione del Trauma, delle emergenze mediche, ecc.. insomma.. le solite cose dei 118isti!! Dopo solo un paio di mesi mi proposero di partecipare alla Consensus Conference sulla Simulazione a Bologna, organizzata dai Guru (con la "G" maiuscola) della

Formazione Italiana, nomi e professionisti molto importanti per me che ero piccolo piccolo. Da quell'incontro con molti professionisti, iniziai ad innamorarmi di quell'ambiente e fantasticare sulla possibilità di poter lavorare con la simulazione in Lombardia, nell'ambito dell'emergenza urgenza, in maniera un po' più strutturata.. contestualmente iniziai a studiare, frequentare e interessarmi di simulazione e di come poterla utilizzare ai fini di una formazione efficace. Infatti, inizialmente rimasi molto affascinato da tutta la tecnologia che girava attorno a questo mondo, ma ben presto capii che era solo un aspetto e che



non era certo tutto lì.. ed è stato amore a prima..."Svista"!!

**In qualità di Direttore, come gestisci i team multidisciplinari che affriscono al Centro?**

Attualmente la Struttura IR&TeC (International Research & Teaching Center) di AREU, conta un team di 14 persone, me compreso. Nel team, a tempo pieno, ci sono formatori clinici (infermieri di provenienza dall'area critica, ancora in attività per una parte del loro tempo), personale amministrativo, tecnico, soccorritori ed educatori professionali.

Da circa 10 anni, inoltre, la Struttura coordina 3 gruppi di lavoro perma-



nenti (tavoli tecnici regionali) per la formazione dei professionisti medici e infermieri, oltre che dei soccorritori, svolgendo una supervisione per la definizione dei fabbisogni formativi e la progettazione dei nuovi eventi.

Formiamo poi, per progetti specifici, dei team multidisciplinari estemporanei che si confrontano, condividono, studiano e propongono soluzioni, coinvolgendo molto spesso anche psicologi, pedagoghi, esperti di vari ambiti a seconda della necessità.

Attualmente il nostro Centro conta circa 170 formatori di varie discipline e professionalità, più circa 70 consulenti dell'Albo Formatori esterni.

**La simulazione, in questo momento, sta crescendo anche in Italia. Quali sono le figure professionali più richieste? Chi vorresti nel tuo Centro?**



**Giulia Mormando**

Dip. medicina DIMED,

Università di Padova

✉ giulia.mormando@gmail.com

f Giulia Mormando

CONTINUA A LEGGERE  
IL RESTO DELL'INTERVISTA





Choose your language

## Laura González: de enfermera traumatológica a presidenta del INACSL

La presidenta de INACSL nos da un vistazo de su mundo. Cruciverbalista, aprendiz de por vida, cree que las mayores alturas de su vida profesional aún están por llegar

Es hora de conocer a Laura González. Comenzó como enfermera de urgencias en un centro de traumatología, pasó 20 años allí y ahora es vicepresidenta de la empresa líder en Simulación Virtual de Enfermería. Reconocida por la prestigiosa Academia Americana de Enfermeras como Fellow (FAAN), actualmente es

Presidenta del INACSL. Educadora de simulación de atención médica con varios artículos en revistas revisadas por pares, un libro de texto de habilidades clínicas y una patente sobre Paciente virtual en su haber. Al mismo tiempo, es una ávida lectora y cruciverbalista, y le encanta hacer cualquier cosa al aire libre. La conocimos y de-

scubrimos que odia las agujas y que todavía está aprendiendo cómo contar chistes.

**Read our interview with her to find out more on [www.simzine.it](http://www.simzine.it)**



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**SIM CORNER**

## TECU Simulator una nueva herramienta para la simulación

Desde la idea de un simulador en obstetricia para la formación en técnicas invasivas hasta su realización: el TECU simulator a través de las palabras de sus desarrolladores



**Ana Cubo Nava**

✉ [amcubo@saludcastillayleon.es](mailto:amcubo@saludcastillayleon.es)

La simulación clínica en Obstetricia no es algo novedoso. Ya en el siglo XVIII, Madame Du Coudray ideó los primeros maniqués para enseñar "el arte del parto" a las matronas en París y otros lugares de Francia. Desde entonces, la simulación en Obstetricia se ha centrado en las diferentes situaciones que pueden resultar complicadas en el momento del parto, desde el parto eutócico hasta el parto de nalgas o la distocia de hombros.

Desde entonces, la Obstetricia como especialidad ha cambiado radicalmente: la ecografía se ha convertido en algo esencial y las técnicas diagnósticas ecoguiadas (amniocentesis y biopsia de la vellosidad corial) son procedimientos habituales hoy en día. Hasta ahora, la amniocentesis se realizaba prácticamente de manera exclusiva en las consultas de Diagnóstico Prenatal y se aprendía realizándola directamente en la paciente, bajo la supervisión de un adjunto. Sin embargo, hay dos factores que hacen aún más necesaria la simulación en

este ámbito: la disminución del número de pruebas invasivas en Diagnóstico Prenatal gracias a la mejoría de las pruebas de cribado y las nuevas indicaciones surgidas respecto al diagnóstico precoz de la corioamnionitis subclínica, que hacen necesario que cualquier ginecólogo de guardia esté capacitado para poder realizar una amniocentesis de urgencia.

La idea de la creación de TECU Simulator como simulador de amniocentesis y BVC surgió de la necesidad de dar una formación en técnicas invasivas a los residentes de Obstetricia y Ginecología del Hospital Clínico Universitario de Salamanca. Es cierto que la mejoría en las técnicas de cribado disminuye el número de técnicas invasivas, lo que es muy bueno para las pacientes, pero también es cierto que la disminución del número de técnicas invasivas también disminuye el entrenamiento y la habilidad del que las realiza y aún más del que debe aprenderlas como parte de su especialidad. Por otro lado, no parece prudente aprender una técnica que conlleva posibles riesgos para el embarazo directamente con la paciente.

Esta inquietud no era exclusiva nuestra, por supuesto: muchos otros profesionales tenían la misma perce-

pción. En 2016 acudimos a un curso en el Hospital de Torrejón (Madrid). En él, la doctora Belén Santacruz nos enseñó a crear escenarios de simulación de amniocentesis muy básicos utilizando muestras animales. En 2018 pusimos en marcha en el Servicio de Obstetricia y Ginecología nuestro primer curso de simulación utilizando ese modelo. El curso resultó muy bien, y el modelo era muy realista, ya que el tejido animal simula perfectamente el tejido humano, pero era muy incómodo de manejar. A partir de ahí empezamos a idear maneras de poder hacer algo similar pero más manejable y limpio, y fuimos implementando el modelo creando el primer prototipo, que fue la base del actual. Este prototipo utilizaba muestras animales (pechuga de pavo), pero la muestra estaba estanca, no desprendía olores ni líquido y permitía finalizar una sesión de simulación de una mañana sin ser cambiada. Con este modelo hicimos el segundo curso





de simulación en Salamanca, en 2019, y los resultados fueron muy buenos. En ese momento decidimos patentar la idea, ya que entonces no había nada similar en el mercado. Iniciamos los trámites de la patente, registramos el modelo de utilidad y la marca TECU Simulator en 2020, diseñamos nuestra página web (que incluye una rúbrica de aprendizaje descargable



el 2021. En ese año finalizamos los últimos ajustes del contenedor, pero nos faltaba ultimar dos cosas importantes: el contenido del saco amniótico y una membrana que imitara el abdomen de la embarazada y sustituyera la muestra animal, conservando las propiedades de ecogenicidad necesarias. La primera la hemos logrado mediante la colaboración con Luis Orantes, de la empresa Factoría de Patologías: Luis nos ha diseñado dos fetos en un material ecogénico que imitan a una gestación de 12 y 15 semanas respectivamente, lo que hace más real el entorno de la simulación. La segunda, fundamental para la puesta en marcha de un modelo eficaz y útil en la práctica diaria, la hemos conseguido mediante la colaboración con Jacinto Salas Cortés, de la empresa BIOTME. El material que ha diseñado simula a la perfección el tejido abdominal

de forma gratuita) que hemos ido implementando con cada nueva aportación e iniciamos el camino para el diseño industrial, de cara a su comercialización futura. Sin embargo, en 2020, la llegada de la pandemia COVID supuso un freno importante en el desarrollo, que quedó paralizado hasta

de la paciente embarazada, de manera que el aprendizaje de cómo guiar la aguja de punción con ayuda de la sonda ecográfica se convierte en una experiencia tan real como cuando se realiza con muestra animal o con la propia paciente, pero con la ventaja de no tener que preparar la muestra con antelación, es decir, se puede improvisar una sesión de simulación en la propia consulta, porque todo lo necesario se incluye en el simulador. Sólo se necesita un ecógrafo y tiempo disponible para simular.

Cuando uno está inmerso en este proceso, a veces entran las dudas de si estaremos yendo en el camino correcto. En 2022, retomando la trayectoria interrumpida por la pandemia, la Oficina Española de Patentes y Marcas nos nominó a los Premios a la Mejor Invención Protegida por Propiedad Intelectual. Quedamos finalistas, y esto ha supuesto un gran refuerzo a la hora de pensar que estamos en la dirección correcta.

TECU Simulator estará disponible para su comercialización en octubre de 2022. Esperamos que pueda contribuir de manera positiva en la formación de los médicos y la seguridad de las pacientes y su embarazo.

Jose Carlos Tejedor Lorenzo  
 dirección@email.com



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SIM VOICES

## Our journey in simulation

### SimUni puts teams of medical students from all around the world competing in urgent medical scenarios. One of the participating teams tells us about it

It all started with a group of friends' interest in emergency medicine powered by a local simulation competition for medical students in Coimbra, Portugal. Since the beginning of this journey, me, Inês, Patrícia, and Viktoriya, understood that simulation is the key to a safer and fruitful learning environment and consequently to safer medical practice. SimUni made us acknowledge that even more.

SimUni puts teams of medical students from all around the world competing in urgent medical scenarios with a virtual patient. In Sevilla, during the 27th Annual Meeting of SESAM (Society for Simulation in Europe), the selected teams were tested in two very different cases, the last being the one that pushed us to the limit.

Despite all the simulation factors, at that moment everything feels real.

Therefore, the clinical interview, physical examination, monitoring, technical skills, and every other procedure are done as in a real-life scenario. Although the proper management of the clinical situation is essential, the biggest challenge in the last scenario was handling an intrusive family member who disturbed our team dynamics and forced us to make unforeseen adjustments.

In this context, the stress and adrenaline are the same as in an actual ER, and the communication and set challenges are equally realistic. Although we trained several clinical cases, there are always unexpected situations that defy theoretical knowledge and take us out of our comfort zone. When the simulation ends, we get a sense of relief but also the realisation that once again we acquired new high-quality knowledge. The final debriefing is a major contributor to this

learning process: discussing the clinical case, explaining certain decisions and clarifying doubts from both sides – judges and competitors – have an extremely important role. Often, there is no right or wrong, but the best approach to that specific patient.

Both in competition and in training, the enthusiasm from all intervening was contagious. We practised, as a team, on our own, coached by colleagues, and by a tutor (a doctor experienced in emergency medicine and pre-hospital care). In every scenario we acquired new skills and insights. «The experience was enriching from day one: we managed to improve our theoretical, practical knowledge and even non-medical skills such as mutual help, team spirit, flexibility, and trust» states Patrícia, another team member: «Throughout this journey, we realised that, although the difficulty of the cases gradually increased,





we were always able to solve them if we remained cohesive. It was undoubtedly a time of personal and professional growth, surrounded by lots of fun».

Besides the technical part, I believe the biggest purpose of the competition is to promote non-technical skills such as communication, situational awareness, role assignment, dealing with sudden changes, and teamwork, which oddly are the hardest to train and retain.

Inês adds, «SimUni gave us the opportunity to think and learn in ways we wouldn't have in any other scenario. The repetition in training cemented the knowledge on how to act in emergent situations and the competition aspect provided realism. Our path from Coimbra to Sevilla was thrilling and similar experiences would be an asset in medical education worldwide. Local, national, and international simulation competitions are excellent ways to increase medical students' interest in emergency and this fantastic way of learning».

We understand that simulation is not only for students and that including non-technical skills in training for doctors may be challenging, but it has a large long-term benefit for the patient, healthcare professionals, and the institution. To be surrounded by people who share the same passion



for a better, stronger, and safer medical practice stimulates every one of us to keep learning (and eventually to teach) in this active way and encouraging others to do so, as well.

During the SimUni we absorbed every feedback, comment, and teaching from the experts and the other teams. Being in touch with medical students from various countries was one of the best parts of this adventure. We had the privilege to meet colleagues from Germany and the United Arab Emirates in person, with different backgrounds, experiences, teaching methods and consequently particularities in technical and

non-technical approaches to the patient, from whom we learned a lot. Ending with Viktoriya's point of view, «not only is it a great opportunity to discover new ways of working, but also to establish connections with people that are passionate about the same things that we are. Networks such as these can be of high interest in future projects, whether personal or not».



Inês Antunes  
isofia.antunes@gmail.com

Patrícia Conde  
patricia.fmuc@gmail.com

Viktoriya Shkatova  
avikysa@gmail.com



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**SIM SPACE**

## Neurochirurgia 4.0: il Besta NeuroSim Center

**Il Besta NeuroSim Center nasce per ridurre il rischio clinico in neurochirurgia. E lo fa attraverso la formazione, la ricerca, lo sviluppo di nuovi dispositivi e le collaborazioni internazionali. Oggi è un'eccellenza in Europa**

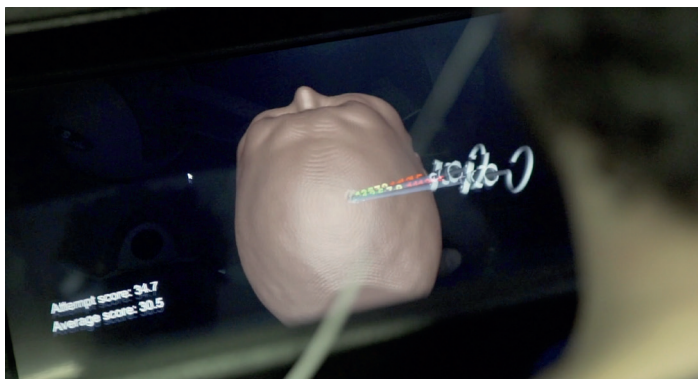
Il Besta NeuroSim Center (BNSC), all'interno dell'Istituto Besta di Milano, nasce per ridurre al minimo il rischio di danni ai pazienti neurochirurgici legati all'inesperienza degli operatori del settore. Grazie all'utilizzo di sistemi tecnologici all'avanguardia e di metodologie innovative vogliamo anche ridurre il possibile verificarsi di casi di *malpractice*. La necessità di minimizzare ogni possibile rischio a carico dei pazienti negli interventi neurochirurgici è un problema attuale. Non va dimenticato che la neurochirurgia, con un tasso di complicanze intorno al 12-14%, è la specialità con il più alto rischio di denuncia e conseguentemente con il più alto costo medico-legale (PMID: 21848463).

### Realtà virtuale per problemi (e soluzioni) reali

Per anni la Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Neurologico "C. Besta" ha scelto di affrontare il tema della sicurezza del paziente importando alcuni protocolli direttamente dal mondo dell'aviazione. È in questo programma che, fin dalla sua fondazione nel 2015, il

BNSC si propone di identificare e studiare nuovi e rivoluzionari metodi di formazione del neurochirurgo, con l'obiettivo di ottenere prestazioni di eccellenza in neurochirurgia e aumentare al massimo la sicurezza.

Attualmente il BNSC è il primo centro di simulazione di neurochirurgia e il più tecnologicamente avanzato in Europa. Grazie ai più moderni e avanzati simulatori in realtà virtuale tridimensionale dotati di feedback aptico e tattile, le procedure e gli interventi neurochirurgici sono ricreati al fine di consentire la simulazione di interventi e un più rapido apprendimento da parte dei giovani neurochirurghi. Analogamente a quello che i piloti di aerei già fanno, i giovani neurochirurghi possono imparare la professione,



senza esporre i pazienti ad alcun rischio derivante dall'inesperienza.

I visualizzatori anatomici 3D e i pianificatori chirurgici disponibili presso il BNSC vengono impiegati anche per migliorare la comunicazione tra medico e paziente nella presentazione dei rischi operatori al momento del consenso informato preoperatorio.

I pazienti da noi operati vengono studiati prima sulle nostre piattaforme 3D in realtà virtuale per analizzare e ripassare i casi da operare prima di andare in sala operatoria,

esattamente come un direttore d'orchestra farebbe con la prova generale prima di un concerto. Questo aumenta la tranquillità del neurochirurgo, la comprensione dell'anatomia chirurgica e facilita il trasferimento di conoscenze tra chirurghi esperti e giovani chirurghi o specializzandi.

### Collaborazioni e progetti in corso

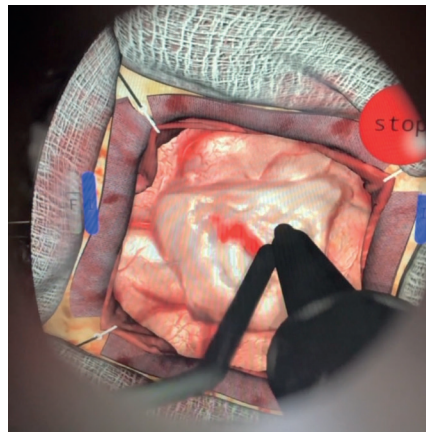
Da anni il BNSC collabora con varie Società professionali di settore nazionali ed internazionali tra cui la Società Europea di Neurochirurgia





gia (EANS) oltre che con Università Internazionali per lo svolgimento di sessioni di simulazione nell'ambito di corsi di formazione per giovani neurochirurghi Italiani, Europei e provenienti da molti altri paesi del mondo. Recentemente il BNSC ha accolto quasi 80 specializzandi da tutto il mondo nell'ambito del progetto PASSION, uno studio che ha misurato quanto un training intensivo neurochirurgo con simulatori 3D in realtà virtuale, anche solo con un'esposizione breve, migliori significativamente le loro abilità chirurgiche e aumenti la loro confidenza.

Nel 2020 il BNSC ha ricevuto l'importante riconoscimento da parte della Commissione Europea nell'ambito del percorso Knowledge Alliances Erasmus+ con il finanziamento di un 1 milione di Euro per svolgere uno studio triennale con la partecipazione dei dieci migliori centri di neurochirurgia d'Europa (AENEID - Academy

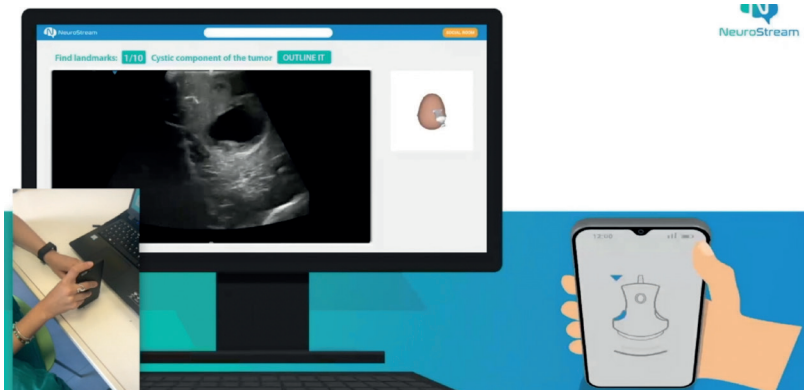


for European Neurosurgical Excellence through Innovation and Diversity) con l'obiettivo di costruire un nuovo paradigma nel percorso di formazione dei giovani neurochirurghi europei. Grazie all'integrazione di formazione tecnica di alto livello con l'impiego della simulazione e della dissezione

cadaverica e l'insegnamento delle soft skills, come comunicazione, ascolto attivo e empatia, gli specializzandi in neurochirurgia d'Europa riceveranno un training migliore e standardizzato.

Recentemente abbiamo creato dei modelli in stampa 3D di cervelli di pazienti affetti da tumore cerebrale. In questo modo è possibile ricreare un cervello umano, con sensazioni visive e tattili estremamente realistiche. Questi modelli permettono di integrare le informazioni della navigazione e dell'ecografia intraoperatoria, permettendo una simulazione a 360° di ogni paziente da operare (Progetto PrintMed3D, con la partecipazione anche del Dipartimento di Fisica dell'Università di Milano).

Infine, ma non ultimo, il BNSC in collaborazione con Gruppi industriali, ha realizzato il primo simulatore di ecografia cerebrale intraoperatoria che è stato posto gratuitamente a disposizione dei neurochirurghi di ogni livello e Paese attraverso la piattaforma telematica NeuroStream (<https://NeuroStream.Academy/>). Attraverso questo strumento di simulazione, sessioni di simulazione ecografica cerebrale intraoperatoria vengono periodicamente erogati in vari contesti internazionali (Mumbai, Hong Kong, Pretoria, Barcellona, Boston, Gerusalemme, San Paolo, San Francisco ed altri).





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**DID YOU KNOW...**

## SUN Brasil 2022: la primera visita de SIMZINE a Latinoamérica

**Volamos a Sao Paulo en Brasil para participar en el SUN - Simulation User Network, organizado por Laerdal Medical. Aquí está el relato de la experiencia**

La primera travesía oceánica de SIMZINE tuvo lugar el pasado mes de septiembre, con motivo del SUN (Simulation User Network) Brasil 2022, el congreso de simulación clínica organizado por Laerdal Medical, Hospital Sirio Libanes y ABRASSIN (Asociación Brasileña de Simulación en Salud). El primer aterrizaje de SIMZINE en América Latina se produjo precisamente en el Hospital Sirio Libanes de Sao Paulo, del 8 al 10 de septiembre de 2022, en presencia de los más grandes profesionales de la simulación de todo el continente americano.

El objetivo de los eventos SUN es compartir los conocimientos más avanzados en simulación, con acti-



vidades formativas específicas para cada disciplina sanitaria, y brindar una oportunidad de encuentro y debate a todos los profesionales del sector. En el SUN, las conferencias siempre van acompañadas de talleres prácticos: en esta edición sobre todo vimos una mezcla de eventos presenciales y online, ya que se decidió ampliar el acceso incluso a quienes no pudieron asistir en persona.

La calidad de la conferencia está garantizada por Laerdal, empresa pionera en la simulación de atención médica, el Instituto de Educación e Investigación del Hospital Sirio Libanes y una Comisión Científica formada por 8 expertos en simulación que se

encargaron de definir los temas tratados en la agenda. Laerdal pone su experiencia a disposición de todos los usuarios de la simulación, mediante la organización de eventos educativos que traspasan fronteras. De hecho, en el curso de 10 años, SUN ha conectado a más de 20.000 profesionales en todo el mundo.

«La simulación clínica realista es una metodología de enseñanza en plena expansión y adopción a nivel mundial. Hemos evolucionado mucho en Brasil en los últimos años, pero la oportunidad de actividades como esta, para que los profesionales de educación en salud tengan un ambiente para discutir nuevas técnicas, intercambiar experiencias y, sobre todo, desarrollar una red entre sus pares es fundamental» comenta Reinaldo Lino, Vicepresidente para Latinoamérica de Laerdal Medical, «La simulación clínica ya es una realidad en nuestras facultades de salud, especialmente en las carreras de Medicina y Enfermería, pero a medida que intensificamos los debates relacionados con la seguridad del paciente y la mejora de la calidad en nuestros hospitales, la educación basada en la simulación se muestra como una herramienta eficaz y eficientemente comprobada».

En la edición de Brasil 2022 intervinieron algunos de los ponentes más ilustres de este sector, como la Dra. Susan Niermeyer, quien habló del



entrenamiento en reanimación cardiopulmonar en el periodo neonatal en países de bajos ingresos, y el Dr. Ross Scalese, cuya intervención se enfocó en el uso de la simulación en hospitales para garantizar la seguridad del paciente. Sin embargo, uno de los temas a los que se le dio más espacio es el de la tecnología como herramienta para la atención en salud.

«LATAM debe avanzar en el uso de la Educación Basada en Simulación con mayor estandarización y formación de simulacionistas. Congresos como SUN y otros, además de las sociedades científicas, son claves para



que esta metodología sea usada en forma masiva y avanzar hacia una salud segura» nos explica Eliana Escudero Zuniga, SIM-Educator Consultant de Santiago de Chile y keynote del congreso, y sigue «Personalmente disfruto asistiendo a espacios como estos, porque son muy valiosos en cuanto a lo que se aprende y además es siempre la oportunidad de volver a ver a grandes amigos. Es también donde se consolidan grandes proyectos colaborativos y reconocimientos».

**LEER LA ENTREVISTA CON ELIANA ESCUDERO**





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SIMZINE

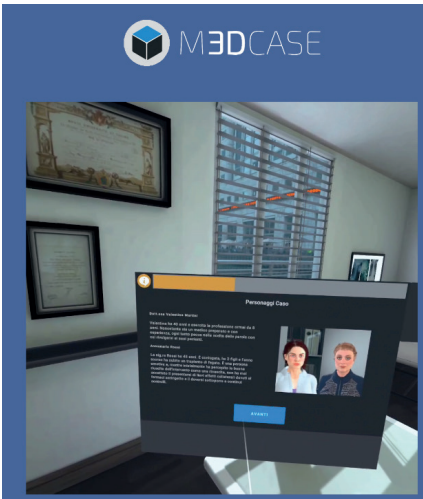


SIMREVIEW



## MedCase: the doctor-patient dialogue is a serious game

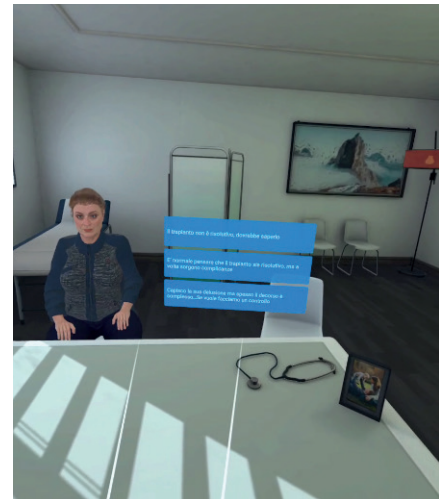
Graphically modern and multiplatform, a serious game created to train communication with the patient even in the most complex situations



the simulated patient is a health professional.

That said, as you can imagine, the use of people to carry out this type of simulation is not easy and it is not always possible, but above all it is not easily replicable several times a year.

To do this, MedCase comes to the



The factors that affect the realism of a simulation are not that different from those of a movie or television series. In fact, we have scenery, script and acting, obviously intended not for entertainment but for training.

It is clear that, if the ultimate goal is to test communication with a patient in even the most complex situations, a script (or just an outline) and the role-playing skills of the simulated patient are extremely important. For this, it is necessary to prepare the actors so that they faithfully interpret both the symptoms and, above all, the dialogue with a patient who must respond realistically, which is difficult if

aid, a serious game developed by Whitesock and owned by Nume Plus that greatly simplifies what was said above.

I had the opportunity to preview the VR version of MedCase, now avail-

able as a serious game for PC and tablets.



Pros

- Multiplatform
- Very stable
- Full customization and design
- All the support of the company.



Cons

It is still in development, but the premises and ideas of the company are excellent.



KEEP READING AND DISCOVER THE FINAL VERDICT





## DID YOU KNOW...

# Supervising simulation and debriefing wisely

SShADoW is a new and standardised guiding tool to supports instructor-trainers throughout the process of supervising simulation and debriefing activities

Guided self-reflection and direct feedback are well-established strategies to facilitate learning in simulation-based education (SBE). These strategies are also commonly used in faculty development programs, to enhance learning for both basic or continuous training of SBE-instructors.

There are several facilitator feedback ratings tools, developed to measure debriefing quality. Although these tools serve their purpose well, they are difficult to apply in formative contexts, and only address the debriefing component. Considering this need, a non-rating tool with an overarching structure was developed: SShADoW - Supervising Simulation And Debriefing Wisely.

### What is SShADoW?

SShADoW is a standardised guiding tool (cognitive aid) that supports

instructor-trainers throughout the process of supervising (or shadowing) simulation and debriefing activities. Its aim is to provide guidance for a structured and standardised reflective conversation on the simulation experience.

SShADoW is compiled in 2-pages and includes diagrammatic representations of each section, for easier interpretation and application.

### How to use SShADoW?

The tool was structured to cover the most relevant aspects of a simulation activity, including all phases (from scenario design to debriefing), through an integrative but flexible approach. SShADoW was primarily developed to be used during simulation instructor courses, although it is expected to be also applicable

in longitudinal faculty development programs or as a self-development strategy.

As in any SBE activity, psychological safety should be guaranteed: the application of this guidance tool should be agreed upon and discussion should be handled with appropriate confidentiality.

It is recommended to determine the observation focus before the activity. The tool was sectionally structured, to be adaptable to a course program (e.g. allows focus on specific aspects or the overall activity, based on the learning objectives) or adaptable to individual learner needs (e.g. peer-feedback with previous agreement on the aspects to discuss). See examples of use below.

**SShADoW** Identification of the team/scenario (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**Scenario design**

Specific observations (not exhaustive list):

- Follows a structure, designed based on learning objectives
- Proper deployment of room, equipment, prompts...

Episodes:

- Fitting between participants ability, learning needs and learning objectives, scenario task and complexity

**Briefing simulation, SShADoW (equipment, clinical case)**

Specific observations (not exhaustive list):

- Facilitator greets the participant and establish trust and security
- Tasks and agreement of roles between facilitators/operators/consolidators
- Systematic briefing (is) and detailed briefing of the environment
- Facilitator is receptive to questions and invites participants to explore the space
- Clinical case briefing: clear definition of place, time, role, etc.

Episodes:

- How did the briefing facilitated/impaired the scenario running and/or the debriefing?
- Balance between necessary information vs too much information

**Scenario**

Specific observations (not exhaustive list):

- Balance between complexity and task overload (facilitator)
- Balance between complexity/ambiguity and realism
- Specific elements that were included in the scenario to stimulate the learning objectives
- Degree of intervention/influence of the facilitator during the scenario
- Degree of improvisation of the facilitator/operator/roles during the scenario
- Degree of immersion of participants during the scenario
- Unexpected events/surprises
- Type of beginning (e.g. jump-start)/ending of scenario

Episodes:

- Options to avoid excessive inference from the facilitator
- How the preparation/interfeedback of realism affect the immersion of participants
- Prompt/life lovers that could be useful for the scenario
- If the learning objectives were properly stimulated through this scenario

This tool was developed in a joint collaboration of EUSIM Faculty from the following institutions: SIRMED, VIRTIO, UKM Trainingszentrum, SAFER, EuSim

**SShADoW**

**Debriefing (overall)**

Psychological safety:

- Privacy, setting position, room setup
- Setting the scene (briefing the debriefing)
- Relationship, atmosphere, respect, esteem

Efficiency:

- Time management
- Clear structure/clear transition between phases
- Task management between facilitators, use of resources
- Talking time (facilitators vs participants), Involvement
- Communication patterns
- Discuss observed/anticipated patient input
- Learning objectives disclosure
- Problem vs. solution-oriented

Patient safety:

- Considering state of the art care, current guidelines, etc.

Reactions (if applicable)

- Briefly check reactions (one word/sentence)
- Collect "peers"

**Description**

- Use easiness/control appropriately to get a chronological, objective, factual, complete description
- Conclude description clearly
- Achieve a shared mental model
- Collect "peers"
- Involve participants appropriately

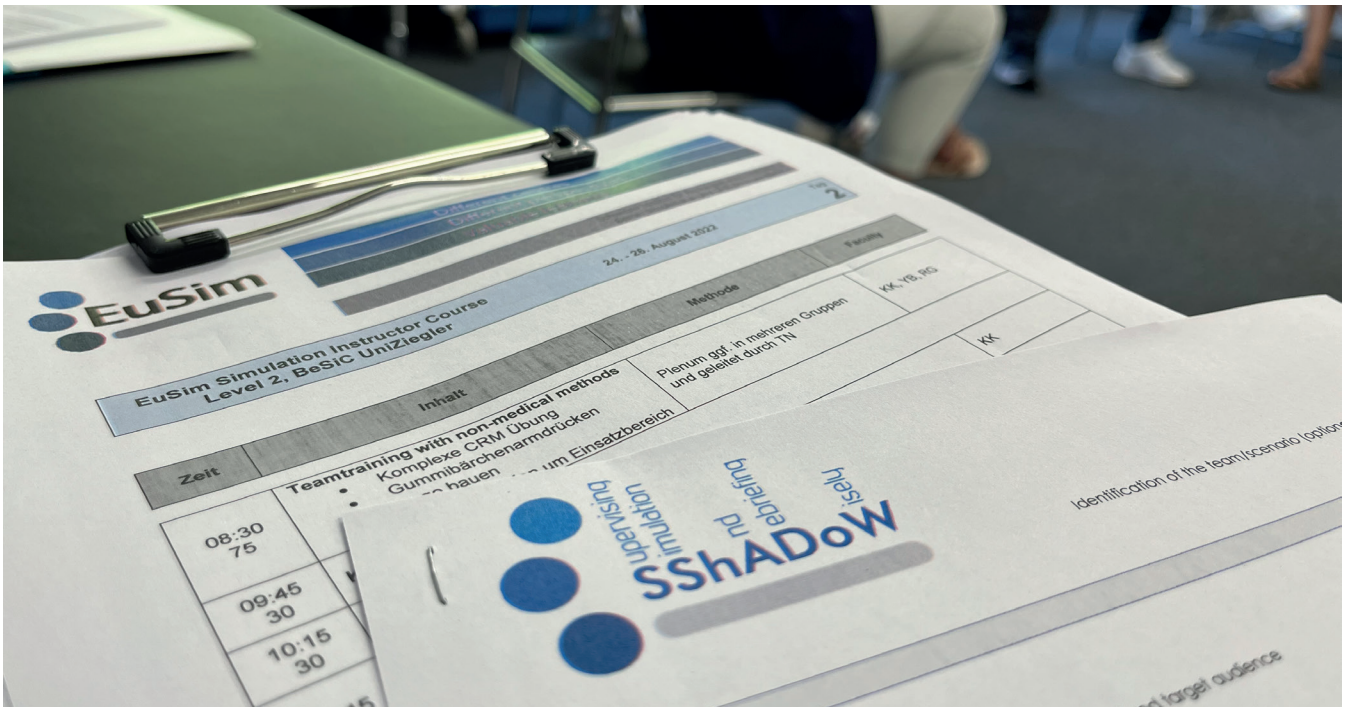
**Analysis**

- Reflection level achieved
- Address successes and improvements
- Use different questions techniques (ALL, circular questions...)
- Use "peers" to share discussion
- Use video sequences to support reflection
- Relevant issues addressed?
- Relevancy in the light of patient safety

**Application**

- Asking for sustainable take home messages (individual, team, organization)
- Asking for action plan and examples (what, when, who, how?)

This tool was developed in a joint collaboration of EUSIM Faculty from the following institutions: SIRMED, VIRTIO, UKM Trainingszentrum, SAFER, EuSim



**Example 1:**

On a 3-days instructor course (e.g. EuSim Level 1) the application of the tool would have different focuses throughout the course. On day one, it could be used to observe the first debriefings attempts, focusing on the debriefing structure and time management. On day two, with participants developing and applying their own scenarios, it would observe the full process: scenario design, briefing, scenario conduction, and debriefing. And, on day three, where participants re-run their scenarios, it could be used, focused on the debriefing, to explore different questioning techniques.

After the observation, a dialogue between the involved persons should elaborate on the established/agreed key issues. The supervisor is free to choose any underlying model for structuring the conversation, alternating guided self-reflection and directive feedback. Directive feedback is particularly useful to provide objective guidance (e.g. structured briefing; time-management; etc), allowing a timely discussion. It is also useful with novice learners that lack knowledge and experience in a certain topic and for whom self-reflection can be difficult to achieve.

This tool was developed in a joint collaboration of EUSIM Faculty. Suggestions and comments are most welcome: [sshadow@med.up.pt](mailto:sshadow@med.up.pt). More information about EUSIM group: [www.eusim.org](http://www.eusim.org)

**Example 2:**

In a peer-feedback situation, an instructor would ask a colleague to observe a specific aspect of his performance (e.g. if the briefing was structured and comprehensive; if he appropriately involved observers into the debriefing, etc).

**Example 3:**

In a personal development strategy, an instructor would record the activity (upon requested permission) and would use the tool for self-assessment.



**Kai Kranz**  
[kai.kranz@sirmed.ch](mailto:kai.kranz@sirmed.ch)

**Katharina Schulze-Oechtering**  
[katharina@schulze-oechtering.eu](mailto:katharina@schulze-oechtering.eu)

**Hilde Hetland**  
[hilde.hetland@safer.net](mailto:hilde.hetland@safer.net)



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SIM VOICES

## Inicios de un técnico de simulación

Los inicios de un técnico de simulación que quería ser el futuro Spielberg pero se enamoró de estudiantes, profesionales sanitarios y muñecos

Hace unos días, mientras preparaba un nuevo escenario de simulación en mi centro de trabajo, me entró un nuevo mail. Era mi cuenta personal y no conocía el remitente, así que lo primero que pensé fue... uff, otro spam, pero no, el correo era de Pier, de la revista SIMZINE, ofreciéndome la posibilidad de contar mi experiencia profesional, mis inicios en la simulación clínica cómo técnico...

Antes que nada, me presento: mi nombre es Vicente Prats, aunque todo el mundo me conoce como Chencho, y trabajo actualmente en el Hospital Virtual de la Universidad Católica de Valencia.

Recuperado del shock inicial, y después de preguntarme a quién le podría interesar mi vida, recogí el guante y acepté el reto.

Para empezar desde el principio y poder entender bien de dónde vengo y hacia dónde quiero ir me tenéis que permitir una pequeña licencia cinematográfica, así que acompañadme... fundido a negro, rótulo de "varios años atrás" y flashback al pasado.



Todo empezó hace algo más de 6 años, sentado en el despacho de mi superior, en los estudios audiovisuales de la universidad en la que me formé (sí, estudié comunicación audiovisual, quería ser el futuro Spielberg, cómo casi toda mi promoción) donde mi jefe me propuso un nuevo reto profesional. Yo llevaba 10 años

trabajando cómo técnico audiovisual y en la facultad de medicina de la universidad estaban creando un centro de simulación para los alumnos de ciencias de la salud. El reto consistía en que iba a ser yo el encargado de operar la parte técnica de este centro.

Pero, ¿por qué yo?, le pregunté. Pues mira, respondió, nos han pedido ayuda porque alguien tiene que manejar las cámaras y los micrófonos del nuevo centro... y así empezó todo.

Cuando llegué a mi nuevo puesto de trabajo sólo veía muñecos, muy grandes, tumbados en camillas en unas habitaciones que parecían un hospital en miniatura, y sí, en cada una de ellas había una cámara y un micrófono... pero esos muñecos, ¿qué hacen?, ¿para qué sirven?, ¿qué hago yo aquí...?.

Poco a poco, con la inestimable ayuda de los instructores de la universidad, y sobre todo, con la ayuda del equipo técnico del proveedor de los simuladores de los que disponía, fui formándome el manejo de los simuladores y su software.

Una vez que la parte "técnica" estuvo controlada, quedaba por saber ¿y ahora qué?, ¿para qué sirve todo esto?.

Durante estos emocionantes pero





erráticos meses, me ofrecieron la posibilidad de participar en una formación para los instructores del centro, la que no pudo ser más reveladora. Allí conocí el qué, por qué y para qué de la simulación clínica, la fases de la simulación, la importancia de tener claros los objetivos de cada uno de los casos, y algo que me fascinó, el poder del debriefing.

Para no hacerlo muy largo, me involucré todo lo que pude con mis dos compañeros instructores, diseñamos juntos los casos, las plantillas,... Hasta que un día decidí dar el salto y pasar a mi actual trabajo, en la Universidad Católica de Valencia, cómo técnico de simulación del Hospital Virtual de la misma.

En este centro, además de los alumnos de grado de las distintas titulaciones de la facultad de ciencias de la salud, encontré otro público que me resultó altamente estimulante: el profesional sanitario, aquél que ya está dando su vida día a día en el mundo sanitario pero que encuentra un hueco en su agenda para seguir formándose para garantizar la seguridad de sus pacientes.

Con este nuevo público se nos abría un reto, ya que la realidad física y conceptual de los escenarios, el diseño y desarrollo de los mismos, y sobre todo el debriefing cambiaban sustancialmente.

Con este horizonte se me planteaban también unos nuevos retos: adecuar los simuladores de paciente a las necesidades reales de profesionales



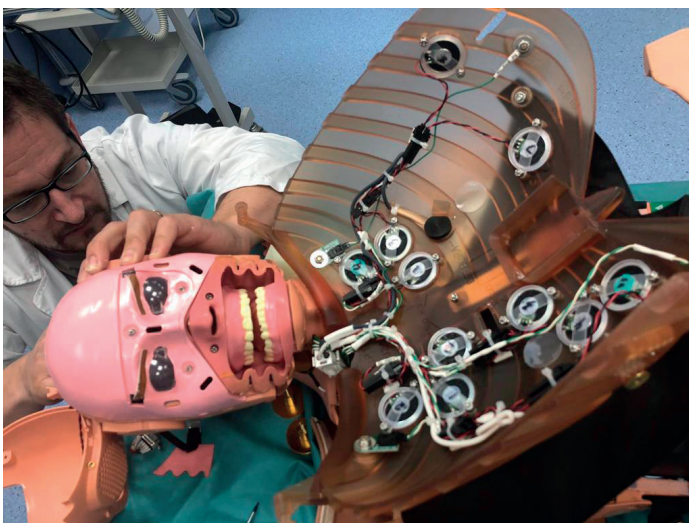
reales, además de la fabricación de aquellos simuladores que comercialmente no se podían conseguir.

Y nos podemos preguntar, ¿dónde quedó aquello de que mi trabajo iba a ser manejar cuatro cámaras y dos micros?, ¿de qué me sirve mi formación audiovisual en todo esto?. Estas son las típicas preguntas que nos hacemos todos los técnicos de simulación, y se pueden resumir en una única pregunta, bueno en dos, ¿qué es un técnico de simulación?, y ¿qué hay que estudiar para ser un técnico de simulación?

Desgraciadamente en España, y que yo sepa en muchos otros países, no hay, aún, ninguna formación reglada al respecto. Pero lo que sí que hay son muchas ganas de trabajar y un foro de técnicos con unas capacidades y cualidades asombrosas, y lo que más me gusta, un espíritu colaborativo que hace que entre todos nos vayamos solucionando las dudas y problemas unos a otros.

Entonces, ¿cuál es el futuro? Seguir formándonos, seguir trabajando y seguir colaborando. Aprendiendo de lo que hacen otros con maestría, porque lo que siempre comentamos cuando nos juntamos es que esto engancha, cuando ves el potencial que tiene la simulación clínica y te empapas de ella ya no hay vuelta atrás.

Así que sigamos simulando, sigamos rompiendo nuestros procesos mentales y sigamos indagando, con mucha curiosidad en el porqué de las cosas.





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## Are certification and accreditation a real need? **Amy Cowperthwait**

Accreditation and certification are both indicators of excellence but they cost effort and time. International experts, moderated by Amy Cowperthwait, shared some thoughts in a session of the SSH Healthcare Simulation Week 2022. And SIMZINE reports the essentials

### The debate

Accreditation refers to an external peer-reviewed evaluation of a healthcare simulation program and aims to ensure that the program adheres to the highest administrative, educational, research and ethical standard by providing quality healthcare education. Additionally, accreditation ensures that a program has a clear mission, vision, strategic plan, and formalized policies and procedures. Certification is a credential achieved by an individual that attests to their competence in a specific subject.

The importance of a facilitator's certification and program's accredi-

tation is that, in some way, they set common and verified standards. Nevertheless, many individuals argue that working towards certain elements of the standards may have a negative impact on their staffing, resources, and finances. On the other hand, others believe that introduction of sort of standards through accreditation and certification may provide leverage regarding funding, and more adequate and appropriate resourcing.

Although there is no doubt that quality needs standards, evidencing achievement and progressing to recognition for that through certifica-

tion and accreditation still requires additional commitment. International experts shared some thoughts in a webinar of the SSH Healthcare Simulation Week 2022.

So what can we do?

#### **Amy Cowperthwait** Moderator

In the simulation education field since 2006, she started first at the University of Delaware, USA, and now she is doing the position of CEO of Avkin, a simulation education company. She is the chair of the Healthcare Simulation Week Committee of Society for Simulation in Healthcare



#### **Andrew Spain**

Received a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Northern Colorado in 1990; became an EMT in 1991, and then a Paramedic. Previously Director of Certification for the Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH), he is now its Associate Executive Director



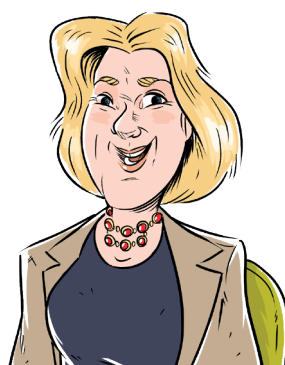
#### **Marc Lazarovici**

Internal medicine doctor, human factors trainer and computer scientist. Currently, leading the Human Simulation Center at the Institute for Emergency Medicine Medical Center of the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in München. Immediate Past-President of Society for Simulation in Europe (SESAM)



#### **Paul O'Connor**

Senior lecturer and associate professor in Primary Care, Human Factor psychologist, research director at the Irish Centre for Applied Patient Safety and Simulation and co-director of the Diploma and Master in Patient Safety and Simulation at the National University of Ireland Galway. Chair of the Irish Association for Simulation, he is also a member of the Executive Committee for the Association for Simulated Practice in Health Care (ASPIH).



### Which type of accreditation, certification, endorsement, or certificates does your association offer?

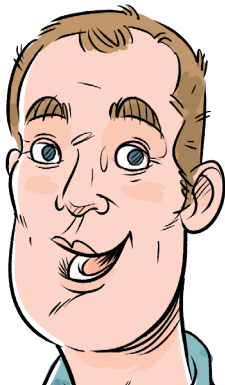
**Marc Lazarovici:** SESAM, as an overarching European society in the

field of simulation-based education, has quite recently just started a quality assurance program which we call SESAM accreditation. Throughout Europe, centers, policies, and healthcare systems are extremely diverse.

So it's hard to find a program that fits everyone. Our members requested help to do this. So, we firstly did a need assessment, then a working group came together and defined what we, as a society, would call qual-

ity standards. And that was the result of the accreditation program, which is aimed at educational institutions. Therefore, it's not aimed at educators as persons, it's not aimed at programs as in courses or educational programs generally, it's aimed at institutions. And I'm deliberately saying institutions and not centers, because an institution can be whatever can do simulation, just in situ and with no center at all. So that's the diversity we try to cover in this program.

**Paul O'Connor:** ASPiH has been doing accreditation since 2019. We have three different kinds of levels or different types of accreditation. So you can be accredited as an individual who delivers simulation-based education, your organization can be accredited, or a particular program can also be accredited. And this accreditation lasts for three years. You have



to commit to three years of membership of ASPiH. So you might be an individual who's part of an organization that's accredited, or in a program that's accredited. Most of the ASPiH membership comes from the UK, but it's not only specific to the UK. ASPiH is trying to become a bit more spread across Europe. I mean, I'm in the Republic of Ireland, for example, we have members who are not in the UK. Moreover it doesn't necessarily have a European focus. We have an organization in Hong Kong that was accredited recently for example.

**Andrew Spain:** SSH accreditation and certification journey began back in 2007 and we focused primarily on accreditation. That is the organizational recognition of the quality of simulation activities. And of course, it's not just the activities themselves, but all of the components within the

organization to demonstrate the various pieces that need to be in place, be it staffing, infrastructure, organizational support, all those things that are necessary for the overall simulation program to be successful. We have a unique model compared to other accreditations that are out there.



While everyone has to demonstrate compliance with the core standards, there are a number of areas that you then would apply for depending on your actual activities. And that's our ARTE self model. So Assessment, Research, Teaching and Education, the systems integration pieces, which is specifically focused on patient safety and health care organization safety, and then the simulation fellows programs. Then for individuals, we have certifications. Since our first certifications were actually granted in 2012, this year at IMSH coming up we are celebrating 10 years of certifications. Our primary programs of course are two examination-based certifications, the CHSE and CHSOS, both accredited by the National Commission on Certifying Agencies.

#### **Why did your association decide to move forward with your credentialing program(s)?**

**Paul:** We came up with the standards for simulation-based education. And the next logical step to move from those standards was to use them to support our members to either demonstrate their expertise or help people to consider what they need to do in order to demonstrate their expertise. And of course, our members wanted this, because it's a badge or it's some demonstration that you have some idea of what

you're doing when it comes to simulation-based education.

**Andrew:** A lot of our starting point came down to the decision by our Board of Directors to create the programs as a service to the health-care simulation community. When we were developing the certification, our own surveys identified really interesting data, such as 86% of the respondents saying that they were learning on the job rather than actually measuring up to a known framework for what good performance looks like. And so that was really important for our board to say, look, there's a lot of things that need to be done to help solve that problem. And accreditation and certification clearly are two very important pieces to it, not just to help set those standards, but frankly, to develop the profession as a whole and to be recognized as such.

**Marc:** I think I addressed this before. From our needs survey came out the reason why our members seek a quality assurance program: mainly they needed it in order to demonstrate, to their university, to their funding bodies, to whomever was asking, adherence to certain quality standards.



#### **What, if any, unintended benefits has your association identified with their credentialing program?**

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ABOUT THE DEBATE**



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