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Patient Safety Through Training

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By Kathleen Davitt, nurse educator, Naval Hospital Jacksonville



Through hands-on training our medical professionals are better prepared to mitigate risks that are inherent with the nature of medicine.

National Patient Safety Awareness Week is March 8-14. While we remain focused on patient safety 24/7/365, we leverage this week as an education and awareness campaign for health care safety. The theme this year is “United in Safety”—which enforces the fact that everyone in the health care process plays a role in delivering safe care.

According to the World Health Organization, as many as one in 10 patients are harmed while receiving hospital care—seven out of 100 hospitalized patients acquire health care-associated infections.

Our state-of-the-art low-, medium-, and high-fidelity human-like simulators provide our Navy Medicine health care professionals with a broad range of team and individual training for childbirth, cardiac arrest, and perioperative complications. We also use life-like body part models for simulating procedural tactics such as lumbar or epidural punctures, abdominal ultrasounds, injections, and arterial line placements. For a more realistic approach, we conduct these training scenarios in actual patient care areas—increasing familiarization and proficiency.

And for our military and civilian staff who may deploy to combat zones or on humanitarian missions, we also use specialized simulators that replicate extensive trauma victims, likely encountered while deployed.

Navy Medicine Video

Navy Medicine is a global healthcare network of 63,000 Navy medical personnel around the world who provide high quality health care to more than one million eligible beneficiaries. Navy Medicine personnel deploy with Sailors and Marines worldwide, providing critical mission support aboard ship, in the air, under the sea and on the battlefield.

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[April 2015 \(4\)](#)

[March 2015 \(21\)](#)

[February 2015 \(16\)](#)

[January 2015 \(12\)](#)

Through hands-on training our medical professionals are better prepared to mitigate risks that are inherent with the nature of medicine. This approach reaffirms and fine-tunes individual and team strengths, reduces the likelihood of errors, and elevates our quality of care.

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[Previous post →](#)

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[November 2014 \(11\)](#)

[October 2014 \(15\)](#)

[September 2014 \(20\)](#)

[August 2014 \(14\)](#)

[July 2014 \(13\)](#)

[June 2014 \(8\)](#)

[May 2014 \(11\)](#)

[April 2014 \(9\)](#)

[March 2014 \(14\)](#)

[February 2014 \(7\)](#)

[January 2014 \(7\)](#)

[December 2013 \(7\)](#)

[November 2013 \(12\)](#)

[October 2013 \(7\)](#)

[September 2013 \(14\)](#)

[August 2013 \(13\)](#)

[July 2013 \(11\)](#)

[June 2013 \(22\)](#)

[May 2013 \(15\)](#)

[April 2013 \(14\)](#)

[March 2013 \(14\)](#)

[February 2013 \(14\)](#)

[January 2013 \(12\)](#)

[December 2012 \(11\)](#)

[November 2012 \(11\)](#)

[October 2012 \(7\)](#)

[September 2012 \(9\)](#)

[August 2012 \(12\)](#)

[July 2012 \(13\)](#)

[June 2012 \(17\)](#)

[May 2012 \(22\)](#)

[April 2012 \(14\)](#)

[March 2012 \(13\)](#)

[February 2012 \(14\)](#)

[January 2012 \(13\)](#)

[December 2011 \(13\)](#)

[November 2011 \(20\)](#)

[October 2011 \(22\)](#)