

A Toe in the Water

Maggie Meeks*¹

Beasley C, Garrett J, Hitchings L, Joyce L, Sheedy M, Townend T, van de Griend B, Bruce T.

¹Neonatal Department, Christchurch Hospital, Christchurch

Link to conference theme

This work describes the paediatric department 'reaching out' using simulation to train with departments with whom they work when a child is acutely unwell.

Aim

Developing collaborative relationships across departments using combined clinical simulation sessions.

Background

The number of children admitted to Christchurch Hospital that require intensive care is not enough to maintain a staffed paediatric intensive care unit. A recent review included the two following recommendation:

- That a plan be developed with Starship PICU/simulation for ongoing staff development and education and improvement of systems and processes, both within and between services.
- That simulation focused on the acutely seriously unwell child be embedded within both ICU and PHDU/PPCU.

Intervention

An interprofessional cross departmental team originally began planning joint sessions with the ICU in 2013 and the ED in 2014. Sessions were planned using a simple clinical scenario of an apnoeic baby that could be run within the Clinical Skills Unit or In Situ. The aim of these sessions was to begin a process of collaboration of specialist teams and to develop a common language of teamwork that will develop into an efficient effective sustainable clinical simulation program. In 2014 three interdepartmental simulations of paediatrics with Intensive care were held in the Clinical Skills Unit. In 2015 / 2016 three In Situ Paediatric simulations were held in the Emergency Department.

Outcomes

The evaluations have included a positive reaction from participants and anecdotal reports of how increasing familiarity with staff and processes from other departments has helped in actual clinical situations.

The Paediatric Department would like to plan to embed these interprofessional cross departmental sessions into a sustainable simulation training program.

Conflicts of Interest

Nil