



Insight, impact, and transformation: a range of highly interactive and exclusive pre-conference sessions and exchanges.

Elevate your conference experience with our exclusive pre-event, The ASPIH X-perience, featuring expert-led, workshops, specialist dialogues with International leaders, and an exclusive evening reception. This is a limited capacity event with separate registration to the conference required.

The ASPIH X-perience will take place on **Tuesday, 11th November**, offering attendees the choice of either **one full-day workshop** or the **two half-day workshops**.

In addition, a **4-hour online workshop** will be available on **Tuesday, 4th November**—held in advance of the in-person event.

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Nov 4th | Online Workshop (14h30 - 19h00)



Digging Beneath the Surface - Optimizing Circular Questions and Advocacy Inquiring in Healthcare Simulation Debriefing

Session Description: In this pre-conference course, participants will be introduced to two key conversational strategies to promote focused facilitation during debriefing: circular questions and advocacy inquiry. Faculty will highlight the role of the three key goals of focused facilitation - uncover rationale, explore understanding, close performance gaps - and describe how circular questions and advocacy inquiry can be utilized to address these goals. Participants will have an opportunity to engage in small group discussion and practice application of these strategies, coupled with feedback from expert facilitators. By the end of the session, participants will have an enhanced appreciation for how focused facilitation strategies can be used to enhance the richness of reflective group discussion in healthcare simulation debriefing.

Objectives:

- Describe the indications for using circular questions and or advocacy inquiry
- Apply and practice the different types of circular questions during debriefing
- Demonstrate the various uses of advocacy inquiring during debriefing

Target Audience: Simulation facilitators and educators (all levels, all professions)

Maximum participants: 24

Facilitators:

- Vince Grant, University of Calgary
- Adam Cheng, University of Calgary
- Susan Eller, Stanford University
- Matt Charnetski, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Centre
- Heather Epp, BC Institute of Technology
- Gavin Burgess, University of Calgary
- Helen Levin, University of Western Ontario

Nov 11th | In-person Workshops

Keeping it real: real people within simulation | Full day (10h-17h)

Background: Simulation-based education is now an essential component of healthcare training. While manikin-based simulation and extended reality (XR), support the development of several skills. communication training, with 'real people' should remain central. Simulated participants (SPs), real people trained to portray patients, carers and colleagues, offer a powerful means of delivering consistent, authentic, and transferable communication-based learning experiences. As clinical placement opportunities become increasingly constrained and continuing professional development a vital ongoing requirement for staff, the roles of SPs in healthcare education, is more essential than ever. Their involvement also raises important considerations around professionalism, psychological safety, and the respectful integration of lived experience into simulation design.

Session Description: This interactive session will feature group-based activities and structured discussion. Delegates will share experiences, explore best practices, and collaborate on developing practical approaches to 'real people' involvement in simulation.

Aim: To explore the involvement of SPs in healthcare simulation and to add to a framework that promotes ethical practice, sustainability, and psychological safety for learners, facilitators, and SPs alike and that respectfully aligns with those with lived experience.

Objectives:

- To identify key factors in engaging with SPs and those with lived experience, safely, respectfully, and professionally.
- To explore strategies for optimising the contribution of SPs to create a valuable and sustainable educational model.
- To support delegates in developing a context-specific plan for incorporating SPs into their organisation's simulation activities.

Target Audience: All who have an interest in developing the involvement of real people in simulation.

Facilitators:

- Gary Francis, Head of Practice-related learning, Health Sciences University
- Carrie Hamilton, CEO and Founder, SimComm Academy
- Gareth Evans, Simulation & Clinical Skills Lead, Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust; Simulation Fellow, Health Sciences University
- Scarlet Herbertson, Student Ambassador, SimComm Academy
- Dr James Nicholson, Simulation Fellow, Post Graduate Centre, Royal Cornwall Hospital

RCoA Simulation Faculty Development Day | Full day (10h-17h)

In collaboration with the Royal College of Anaesthetists

Background: The Royal College of Anaesthetists' Simulation Faculty Development Day developed from work in 2024 and early 2025 to refresh the College's support for simulation, including: a national survey looking at how simulation is used within anaesthetic training, and how it varies by region; the publication of a guide to simulation-based education in anaesthesia; a refreshed simulation advisory group and chairs; and the creation of a series of occasional simulation network group open meeting. In 2025 the College plans to produce a refreshed strategy and develop quality assurance principles for simulation. This session at the ASPiH conference builds on that work to support simulation in anaesthesia, connect practitioners to each other, and develop the next set of simulation faculty leaders.

Aims and learning outcomes: This all-day workshop is designed to provide a comprehensive introduction for new or future simulation faculty. It will feature presentations, discussions, and interactive workshops. As a participant, you should expect to do the following:

- Develop your ability to deliver simulation-based education as part of an interprofessional faculty team
- Understand and apply principles of quality assurance to improve simulation
- Confidently handle difficult simulation scenarios
- Develop your debriefing skills to support psychologically safe simulation
- Learn more about the wider work being done in this area and connect to your peers.

Target audience: This session is appropriate for anyone working in, or supporting, anaesthesia as part of an interprofessional team.

Agenda

10.00 - 11.00 - Interprofessional education

Interactive lecture followed by Q+A. Learning outcomes:

- Discuss the application of key standards and recently published articles of relevance for the design and delivery of interprofessional simulation.

11.30 - 13.00 - Quality assurance in simulation

Introductory presentation and workshop. Learning outcomes:

- Exchange perspectives within similar areas of simulation practice
- Reflect on elements of quality assurance essential in simulated practice, and access new tools and templates.

13.00 - 14.00 - Lunch

14.00 - 15.00 - Simulation Network Update

Presentation and structured group discussion. Learning outcomes:

- Describe innovative approaches to supporting simulation within your context.
- Network and share simulation experiences
- Explore and discuss the latest simulation strategy draft

- Learn how the RCoA Simulation Advisory Group might support your needs

15.00 - 16.00 - How to deal with difficulty in simulation

Workshop. Learning outcomes:

- Consider what makes simulation challenging (time, resources coordination...) and identify potential collaborative solutions

16.00 - 17.00 – Debriefing

Workshop. Learning outcomes:

- Review advanced approaches and strategies in educational debriefing and exchange views on how these might be transferable to clinical debriefing.

Faculty / facilitators:

- Cristina Diaz-Navarro (RCoA Simulation Advisory Group Chair)
- Nicola Doody
- Myles Dowling (RCoA Simulation Advisory Group member)
- Janis Ferns (RCoA Simulation Advisory Group member)
- Amy Hobbs
- Edward Mellanby (RCoA Simulation Advisory Group Chair)
- Vanessa Vallance
- Fui Yong (RCoA Simulation Advisory Group member)

CPD topics

- Simulation in clinical learning
- Assessing educational needs
- Clinical skill teaching
- Curriculum design
- Educational leadership
- Ensuring quality in medical education
- Facilitating learning in the workplace
- Inter-professional learning
- Technology-enhanced learning
- Workplace based assessment
- Human factors in anaesthetic practice
- Quality improvement
- Team leadership and resource management
- Equality and diversity
- Ethics

Writing retreat @ASPiH2025 with editors-in-chief of healthcare simulation journals | Full day (10h-17h)

Background: Have you got a writing project to move to publication? Perhaps a research project, an evaluation, an innovation, something controversial as an editorial, perspective, commentary or letter? This workshop might offer just what you need to move your project along. The focus of the Writing Retreat @ASPiH2025 is to support and help you develop your writing practice, rather than the content of your project. The workshop will be led by three editors-in-chief of healthcare simulation journals and so the focus is oriented to writing for this type of peer reviewed publication.

Session Description: The Writing Retreat @ASPiH2025 will provide a structured and highly participatory workshop designed to develop your academic writing skills. This includes:

- Strategies to construct manuscripts for peer reviewed publication
- Close in-person coaching
- Dedicated time to write (including research proposals, ethics applications, manuscripts) with the option of sharing with fellow participants
- Development/extension of your professional authoring network including the option to participate in a follow up webinar
- Enduring resources to continue your writing development

Aims

- To provide participants with an opportunity to develop academic writing skills
- To build a support network for furthering academic writing

Objectives: After participating in the Writing Retreat @ASPiH2025, participants will be able to:

- Outline a range of personal strategies to foster productive writing
- Create a writing plan for a specified project
- Produce sample writing aligned with their own project
- Identify and access resources to support their writing

Target Audience: Anyone who is interested in undertaking research in healthcare simulation, especially those thinking about or already studying as postgraduate research students. Alternatively, you may work in a healthcare simulation role and want to share your ideas about simulation practices. Whether you are at the stage of writing a research proposal, drafting a manuscript, or writing a report this Writing Retreat @ASPiH2025 is likely well suited to you.

Maximum participants: 18

Facilitators:

- **Debra Nestel** - is the editor-in-chief of the Journal of Healthcare Simulation, and a simulation researcher and educator. Based in Australia, she is a professor of healthcare simulation at Monash University and a professor of surgical education at the University of Melbourne. Debra leads masters' level faculty development programs

in clinical simulation and surgical education and supervises graduate students in doctoral research.

- **Nicole Harder** - is the newly appointed editor-in-chief of Simulation in Healthcare and holds an endowed professorship in Human Simulation at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada. Nicole is active nationally in simulation education and research and facilitates simulation courses through the Canadian Association of School of Nursing. With a focus on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, Nicole works with graduate students and faculty on writing and publishing their innovative work.
- **Gabriel Reedy** - is the editor-in-chief of Advances in Simulation, and a simulation researcher and educator. He is a professor at King's College London (UK) and leads a master's programme in health professions education and frequently supports students and colleagues who are working to improve their academic writing.

Advancing Human Factors in Transformative Simulation: A Collaborative Research Approach | Full day (10h-17h)

Background: Healthcare simulation methodology continues to mature, frontiers of its application expanding beyond education alone into broader areas of transformation. Transformative simulation is rapidly reshaping health and care practice, informed by a growing body of frameworks, models, and theories. Within this evolving landscape, human factors science plays a critical role in taking a systems and design-based approach to appreciating how the complexities and variability associated with human and wider system performance influences outcomes, both wanted and unwanted. While many ASPiH Special Interest Groups engage with transformative simulation and acknowledge the importance of human factors, there is a need for a more integrated and collaborative approach. Therefore, we are bringing together three ASPiH specialist interest groups to engage in a collaborative, innovative strategic approach addressing this intersection and shaping a shared research plan.

Aims: To collectively explore how human factors intersect with the transformative forms of simulation in health care, and to identify the research needed to develop this connection.

Objectives:

- Identify which SBI's are most influenced by human factors principles
- Explore how human factors contributes to achieving the goals of each SBI
- Develop a research plan to advance the understanding and integration of human factors theory and practice in transformative simulation

Session description: This will be a collaborative, interactive workshop involving facilitated discussions and co-creation activities. Participants will contribute to shaping a research plan and will be encouraged to remain involved in ongoing initiatives and outputs that emerge from the workshop.

Target audience: Intermediate to advanced practitioners, educators, researchers, and members of ASPiH SIGs with an interest in human factors and transformative simulation.

Facilitators:

Transformative Special Interest Group

- Sharon Weldon. Greenwich University
- Andy Buttery Canterbury Christ Church University

Human Factors Special Interest Group

- Kevin Stirling University of Dundee
- Paul Bowie University of Staffordshire, NHS Education for Scotland
- Martin Duffy, NIMDTA
- Catie Paton, NHS Education for Scotland

Research Special Interest Group

- Paul O'Connor University of Galway
- Carla Sa-Couto, Faculty of Medicine of University of Porto

Debriefing for Transformative Simulation: A Collaborative Research Approach | Full day (10h-17h)

Background: Healthcare simulation methodology continues to mature, expanding beyond education into broader areas of transformation. Reporting of transformative simulation, defined as a “tool to transform health and care through collective understanding, insight and learning,” is increasing and with increasing evidenced positive outcomes. As the use of simulation continues to evolve, it is essential that the debriefing practices integral to it are understood and evolve in step. A programme of research is required to answer some key questions, such as: How are transformative simulation sessions being debriefed in practice? Are existing debriefing models addressing the needs of faculty, participants and stakeholders in these contexts? Therefore, we are bringing together three ASPIH specialist interest groups to engage in a collaborative, innovative strategic approach addressing this intersection and shaping a shared research plan.

Aims: To collectively explore the debriefing needs for impactful transformative simulation and the research needed to identify the need for, and if so, develop and validate an appropriate bespoke transformative simulation debrief model.

Objectives:

- Identify the key differences between debriefing for simulation-based education and transformative simulation.
- Formulate potential model(s) to work across the simulation based “I”s.
- Develop a research plan that would robustly test and advance the model(s).

Session description: This will be a collaborative, interactive workshop of group work; involving facilitated discussions and co-creation activities. Participants will contribute to shaping a research plan and will be encouraged to remain involved in ongoing initiatives and outputs that emerge from the workshop.

Target audience: Intermediate to advanced practitioners, educators, researchers, and members of ASPIH SIGs with an interest in debriefing and transformative simulation.

Facilitators:

Transformative Special Interest Group

- Ken Spearpoint: University of Hertfordshire.
- Phil Gurnett: Greenwich University
- Julie Mardon Forth Valley Hospital

Debriefing Special Interest Group

- Colette Laws-Chapman: Guys and St Thomas, Hospital
- Diego Olmo-Ferrer: NNUH, ASPIH.
- Nathan Oliver: University of Canberra
- Prashant Kumar: NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, University of Glasgow.

Research Special Interest Group

- Sharon Weldon. Greenwich University

Empowering Healthcare: Addressing Vulnerabilities and Inequalities in Mental Health and Maternity through Co-production in Simulation | Half-day: morning (10h-13h)

Background: Patients in mental health and maternity settings often face significant vulnerabilities and healthcare inequalities. These can stem from a variety of factors, including socio-economic status, cultural background, and systemic biases within healthcare systems. Addressing these issues requires a multifaceted approach that includes education, training, and systemic change.

Simulation-based education, particularly when designed using co-production methods, offers a powerful tool to address these challenges. Co-production involves the collaboration of healthcare professionals, educators, simulated patients (SPs), and real patients in the design and delivery of simulation activities. This approach ensures that the simulations are realistic, relevant, and sensitive to the needs and experiences of vulnerable patient populations.

Target audience: Healthcare professionals, educators, simulation technicians, simulated patients, people with lived experience and students.

Session description: This will be a collaborative, interactive workshop involving facilitated discussions and co-creation activities. Participants work in small groups to design and critique simulation scenarios using co-production principles and case studies. The workshop will encourage skill development, foster discussion on next steps and opportunities for continued collaboration.

This workshop brings together three Specialist Interest Groups (SIGs) within the healthcare simulation community: Maternity, Mental Health, and Co-production with Simulated Patients and Patients. The focus of the workshop is on the vulnerability and healthcare inequalities experienced by patients within mental health and maternity settings, and the value of designing simulation using co-production.

Aims: To enhance participants' understanding and practical skills in using co-production to design and deliver simulation-based education that addresses the vulnerabilities and healthcare inequalities experienced by patients in mental health and maternity settings.

Objectives:

Highlight Vulnerabilities and Inequalities:

- Explore the specific vulnerabilities and healthcare inequalities faced by patients in mental health and maternity settings.
- Discuss the impact of these issues on patient outcomes and healthcare delivery.

Showcase Co-production in Simulation:

- Demonstrate the value of co-production in designing and delivering simulation-based education.
- Provide examples of successful co-production initiatives that have addressed vulnerabilities and inequalities.

Develop Practical Skills:

- Equip participants with the knowledge and skills to implement co-production in their own simulation practices.
- Offer hands-on activities and case studies to illustrate best practices and common challenges.

Foster Collaboration and Networking:

- Create opportunities for participants to connect with peers from different SIGs and share their experiences and insights.
- Encourage ongoing collaboration and support within the healthcare simulation community.

Facilitators:**Co-production with SP's and patients (COSpPs) Special Interest Group (SIG)**

- Naomi Shiner, Keele University
- Lauren Philpott, University of Greenwich

Mental Health Special Interest Group

- Anita Bignell, University Lecturer, Kings College London
- Chris Kowalski, Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist & Simulated Learning Lead, Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust

Maternity Special Interest Group

- Anita Banerjee, Consultant Obstetric Physician, Guys and St Thomas NHS Foundation Trust
- Lisa Cook, Specialist Midwife, Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS trust
- Natasha Sharman, ST6 Registrar, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

Reference: Clarke I, Philpott L, Buttery A. Pilot study: design, delivery and evaluation of a co-produced multi-agency mental health simulation-based education programme. International Journal of Healthcare Simulation [Internet]. 2023 Sep 30;1–12. Available from: <https://www.ijohs.com/article/doi/10.54531/qzcr2106>

Enhancing Integrated Care Through Sequential Simulation: A Coproduced Exploration of Emergency Medicine, Primary Care, and Paediatrics | Half-day: afternoon (14h-17h)

Background: Transitions between organizations in healthcare remain high risk events where critical information regarding patient care can be lost or miscommunicated. The lack of continuity and comprehension of healthcare providers roles, responsibilities and scope of practice is confusing and can be alienating for patients and their families.

In this session we will explore the concept and delivery of sequential simulations and how it may be utilised to ensure integrated care of the patient journey from community to tertiary care and back to the community. By learning together and increasing understanding amongst interprofessional learners from all parts of the system, patient safety can be improved and systems streamlined.

Expert simulation faculty drawn from across the spectrum of primary care, emergency medicine (pre-and in-hospital) and paediatrics will facilitate a fun and fascinating 3 hours of working and learning together to develop new ideas and build on previous ones.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand what Sequential Simulation is and explore it using a SWOT analysis
- Explore the merits of different sequential simulations including from GP or roadside to ED & ITU and “completing the circle” back to the community
- Consider ways that patient engagement in sequential simulation can empower delivery of person-centred care

Session Description: This session will consist of:

- Sharing some examples of real-world sequential simulations and using these as a basis for (30 mins)
- Exploring the literature underpinning this methodology (15 mins)
- Considering the use of patient engagement to further enhance the simulation experience (15 mins)
- Break (15 mins)
- Delving deeper and developing ideas in small groups split into different style of sequential simulation (1 hour)
- Presenting back findings / learn from other groups / run tabletop sim (30 mins)
- Reflecting back on the workshop and make plans for future action (15 mins)

Target audience:

Participants' background and/or occupation: Anyone welcome!

Level: Introductory / intermediate

Facilitators/Moderators:

- **Primary Care SIG:** Jane Roome
- **EM SIG:** Libby Thomas
- **Paediatric SIG:** Tim Mason, Shoshana Layman