



关于在新冠大流行期间使用虚拟仿真的立场声明

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概要

国际护理临床模拟与教学协会 (INACSL, www.inacsl.org) 和 **国际医学模拟教育学会** (SSH, www.ssih.org) 支持在 COVID-19 引起的公共卫生危机期间, 使用虚拟仿真替代现就读于医疗卫生专业的学生 (即护理专业学生、医学专业学生) 的临床实习时间。

问题

目前, COVID-19 大流行正对 80 多个国家造成影响, 并已蔓延到美国的各个市州¹。包括中国、意大利、美国、西班牙、德国、伊朗和法国在内的一些受疫情影响最大的国家正面临着需治疗患者人数远超其卫生系统可服务能力的威胁²。由于个人防护设备的全球性短缺, 许多医疗卫生从业人员自身亦被病毒感染, 而导致目前一线医护人员不足^{3, 4}。

可以预见, 本次疫情将往复持续数月, 因此保证医疗卫生专业人员教学的正常运行至关重要。世界各地的大学都已过渡到使用在线或虚拟手段继续教学。在医疗卫生专业教育方面, 许多监管机构 (如各州护理委员会) 要求学生必须在临床环境中完成既定的实习小时数。例如, 在加利福尼亚州⁵, 数千名计划在几个月内毕业的护理专业学生因未能达到所要求的临床实习时间要求而无法如期毕业。而得克萨斯州⁶和纽约州⁷的政策制定者们则为适应 COVID-19 所带来的相关教学挑战而调整政策, 帮助所需的医护人员顺利毕业, 其他监管机构依然维持原有做法。

解决方案

INACSL 和 SSH 是专业组织, 拥有能为医疗卫生从业人士提供模拟教学的全球顶尖专家。我们可以证明, 虚拟仿真已经成功使用了十多年。此外, 研究已反复证明虚拟仿真的应用, 即在电脑上模拟医疗卫生实践, 是有效提高学生学习成果的教育方式^{8, 9}。**基于当前和预期的医护人员短缺, 我们建议监管机构和政策制定者在疫情大流行期间对于通常在医疗环境中完成的临床实习时间进行灵活处理, 允许使用虚拟仿真作为替代。**通过支持这种创新而有效的教学方法, 解决医疗卫生专业的学生临床时间不足, 保证教育工作的无缝继续, 而且我们也将着力于解决医疗卫生从业人员的燃眉之急, 为其提供及时的职业支持, 为战胜 COVID-19 而努力。

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Position Statement on Use of Virtual Simulation during the Pandemic

March 30, 2020

Synopsis

The International Nursing Association of Clinical Simulation and Learning (INACSL, www.inacsl.org) and the Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH, www.ssih.org) support the use of virtual simulation as a replacement for clinical hours for students currently enrolled in health sciences professions (i.e. nursing students, medical students) during the current public health crisis caused by COVID-19.

The Problem

The COVID-19 pandemic is currently affecting over 80 countries and has spread throughout every state in the United States.¹ Countries including China, Italy, United States, Spain, Germany, Iran, and France are some of the highest affected facing challenges of treating thousands of patients that exceed health system capacity.² With global shortages in personal protective equipment, many healthcare professionals are becoming ill with the virus themselves leading to current shortages of healthcare professionals on the front lines.^{3, 4}

With the pandemic expected to surge in waves and last for months, it is critical that the pipeline of educating healthcare professionals remains intact. Universities across the world have transitioned to continuing education through online or virtual means. In the context of health professions education, many regulatory bodies (such as state boards of nursing) require completion of a set number of hours within the clinical setting. For example, in California⁵, thousands of nursing students who planned to graduate in a couple of months are being blocked due to this clinical hour requirement. While policymakers in Texas⁶ and New York⁷ have readily promoted policy change to assist with the educational challenges related to COVID-19 in the interest of helping needed healthcare workers graduate, other regulatory agencies have remained firm.

The Resolution

The professional organizations of INACSL and SSH encompass the world's leading experts in simulation-based education for healthcare providers. We can attest that virtual simulation has been used for over a decade successfully. Further, research has repeatedly demonstrated that use of virtual simulation - simulated healthcare experiences on one's computer - is an effective teaching method that results in improved student learning outcomes.^{8, 9} **Based on the current and anticipated shortage of healthcare workers, we propose that regulatory bodies and policymakers demonstrate flexibility by allowing the replacement of clinical hours usually completed in a healthcare setting with that of virtually simulated experiences during the pandemic.** By supporting this innovative yet effective way of teaching as a solution to address the clinical hour shortage of health professions students, education efforts will continue seamlessly, and we will support timely career progression of healthcare providers needed immediately to battle COVID-19.

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