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	Prepared by: Quality Cell	Approved by: Management
	Policy No: BES/AM/ Policy on use of clinical skills and simulation labs	

Policy on use of clinical skills and simulation labs

Purpose:

Medical education is increasingly focused on achieving competency in clinical skills and diagnostic reasoning, emphasizing approaches that enhance patient safety and the quality of care. Simulation training is an essential link between medical student training and clinical experience and has proven to be an effective tool for assessing technical skills, critical thinking, and team-orientated behavior throughout medical training.

There have been a number of drivers to the increased uptake and interest in simulation-based education.

- Society and patient expectations have changed so that it is no longer seen as appropriate to practice on patients. Healthcare practitioners are expected to be competent before performing on a patient.
- There have been numerous changes to healthcare delivery including; the move to ambulatory and community settings, increased acuity within hospitals, day surgery etc, all of which mean that there has been a reduction in opportunities for healthcare workers to gain experience in the same breadth of patient care.
- Reductions in working hours for healthcare practitioners also impacts on opportunities for learning.
- The safety movement has raised awareness of adverse event management and the need for training in this area of critical incidents/ adverse events.
- New technologies in medicine have required different approaches to training e.g. endoscopic surgery.

Advantages of Simulation Labs:

- There is a decreased risk to patients as skills are learnt away from the patient prior to transferring them back to the health setting.
- Simulation promotes self reflection and the ability to learn from mistakes in a safe environment.
- There is the opportunity to practice skills repeatedly.
- Scenarios can be created to suit the learning objectives. There isn't a reliance on finding a patient with that condition. This makes the education experience focus on the learner's needs.
- Critical incidents or crisis situations that occur rarely but require a high level of preparedness can be practiced easily.

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College of Nursing
Chinhat, Lucknow-226028

Responsibility: HODs, Head of the Institute & Management

Policy:

- Management and organization shall ensure that simulation resources can be used effectively, maintained appropriately and are accessible to a range of users.
- Management and organization shall ensure that there are sufficient numbers of trained technicians and skilled educators to deliver high quality simulation-based learning experiences.
- Management and organization shall ensure that there is a strong evidence base that informs the practice of simulation-based education and training, and its development into the future.
- Maintenance and protocols of the CSLs shall be followed by all of its users.
- Everyone Using CSLs shall follow safety measures at all times
- Maintain cleanliness of the area
- Any damage or malfunction of mannequins or equipment shall be reported to lab faculty immediately.
- All students shall sign confidentiality agreement before skill laboratory use and will be reminded through the course of the confidentiality issues.

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