T’was the year of the Polar Vortex! I am sure that none of us will forget this past winter and will instead look forward to the enormous joy that the warmer, albeit wet spring weather ahead will bring us.

I anticipate that over the past few months many of you have had the opportunity to notice the physical updates to the SimSinai Centre. I hope that the improvements help to create a more professional and comfortable atmosphere for both learners and faculty alike.

Since our last edition the number of our ACLS courses have continued to increase. Courses are filling up quickly for our spring and summer sessions. Be sure to check the website upcoming dates. Our June sessions have already sold out but we have been able to add an extra course May 31st to June 1st, a weekend course to help with the increased number of registrants.

In March 2014 we held another successful ACLS instructors course. It was well attended by a variety of participants from various medical fields. We will be hosting another ACLS instructors course in the fall so please be sure to submit your CV’s to Dionne Baton for consideration (dionne.banton@utoronto.ca). Upcoming course dates will be announced in June.

As announced in our last Revival, we are moving towards better service by offering a variety of booking forms to be completed by you for your events. This initiative has been met with great success and gaining strength as we move forward. All events and research booking forms completed enable us to better manage your course needs as well as the usage of the Centre. We still have a little ways to go in getting full compliance, but we are getting there.

Since fall 2013 the SimSinai Centre has invested in some great new simulation purchases that we think you will enjoy using. Collectively, with other hospital units we have been able to obtain the Vimedix ultra sound simulator that includes TTE, FAST, Abdominal packages, OB Gynae pathologies, and cardiac packages. We are very excited to add this simulator to our growing arsenal of training devices.

Also added to our growing inventory is a SimJunior. SimJunior is an interactive 6 year old pediatric simulator designed by Laerdal with the American Academy of Pediatrics to meet the education and training needs of healthcare providers. SimJunior allows learners to practice a broad range of pediatrics skills. We invite you down to the SimSinai Centre to take a look at our new purchases or book an appointment with Finch Taylor, Sim Tech to try them out! (finch.taylor@utoronto.ca; 416 586-4800 ext 5812.

So until next time, remember that: “We prepare you, so that you can be prepared”

Lisa Satterthwaite, Senior Manager, RPN/ OR

FROM THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR

The last few months have been very exciting at SimSinai.

Procedural (or conscious sedation)
is frequently employed by non-anaesthesiologists during painful procedures, commonly in the outpatient setting. Examples of such would be: endoscopy done by gastroenterologists, egg retrievals performed as part of assisted pregnancy protocols by gynaecologists, small surgeries and fracture reductions performed by surgeons and emergency physicians, etc.

Four years ago, as part of the Mount Sinai Hospital Initiative, an assessment was done, looking at the situation at Mount Sinai and in GTA area regarding conscious sedation. A collaborative effort by the Advanced Resuscitation Committee, Patient Safety leaders, and experts in Critical care, Anaesthesia and Emergency Medicine resulted in creating the general outline of the course. However the content and curriculum was consolidated only recently and the course was approved and accredited by the CPD University of Toronto.

Following our inaugural simulation based adult procedural sedation course, “Methods in Adult Procedural Sedation” (MAPS) in November of last year, we followed with a more refined version in February 2014. We trained 5 physicians and 6 nurses from two fertility centres and an endoscopy clinic. It was a wonderful example of the power of inter-professional experiential learning. Participants were engaged in various teaching modalities, such as, didactic lectures, role playing, low fidelity workshop and high fidelity simulation training. Feedback from the learners was very positive. To quote one of the participants: “It was a practice-changing experience. I will never look at sedation with the same cavalier attitude…”.

We hope to continue to offer this course quarterly to a broader audience, but also hope that in one form or another we will be training all medical teams engaged in simulation at Mount Sinai on a consistent basis as well.

Sev Perelman MD, MSc, CCFP(EM), CHSE-A

SAN FRANSICO 2014

SimSinai and the Surgical Skills Centre were well represented at the last International Meeting of the Society for Simulation in Healthcare. Two abstracts were presented reflecting the success of SimSinai based collaborative research projects.

As an effort to continue developing our instructors cadre, SimSinai co-sponsored Dr. Ian Chernoff’s participation at his first IMSH meeting. Dr. Chernoff is rapidly becoming one of the best experts in bedside ultrasound and is teaching extensively at undergraduate, postgraduate and CPD level. He will lead most of the SimSinai ultrasound related education. Another proud moment was when Dr. Sev Perelman was awarded the highest level of certification offered by the Society for Simulation in Healthcare –Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator-Advanced: CHSE-A. There are only 16 recipients so far in the world and Sev is the first physician awarded this status in Canada.

TAHSN SIMULATION SUMMIT

At the TAHSN Simulation Summit held on February 26, I presented a brief overview of how SimSinai Centre and its activities are integral to supporting Mount Sinai’s strategic educational goals:

1) To significantly expand team-based, interdisciplinary and interprofessional learning focused on improving patient outcomes and the patient experience.

2) Develop, use and evaluate innovative educational approaches.

I presented our organizational structure which enables excellent integration and creative approaches to simulation efforts of our two major sim centres - at MSH – SimSinai and SSC. Very important to our goal of improving the quality and safety of patient care, is the ability to do in-situ team based simulations. I pointed to the excellent work being done by Dr. Sev Perelman and Dr. Donna Romano (PHD, IPE Scholar) at Mount Sinai in bringing together interprofessional teams in the
Emergency Department to tackle a specific problem identified by them.

The summit was a start to the process of improving integration and utilization of resources and experience across the TAHSN (Toronto Academic Health Science Network) sites. We look forward to the report of the proceedings and moving forward in supporting and optimizing simulation efforts and access TAHSN as a way to improve both the educational experience of our trainees and the outcome for our patients.

*Jackie James MD, MEd, VP Education*

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**MD SPOTLIGHT**

I started teaching simulation courses 10 years ago, while I was finishing my medical degree in my home country, Colombia. I taught emergency and resuscitation courses and since then I have had the opportunity to teach over 130 courses in several countries.

I have taught courses in high fidelity simulation labs but also survival courses in the jungle. For some of these courses I slept in tents with no electricity or running water. I taught natives how to evacuate people and immobilize fractures with just wood and laces. Teaching became a passion and all these myriad of different circumstances changed my vision and my vocation. From my point of view teaching simulation has several advantages:

1) It gives me the opportunity to meet incredible people from different backgrounds with a common goal of improving procedural skills and readiness for emergency situations.

2) New knowledge and skills learned during a course will help people to perform better and therefore, to improve outcomes and patient safety.

3) Limited resources of both personnel and technology emphasizes the need of structured algorithms, teamwork and ability to improvise under stress. In the wilder parts of Canada, hundreds of miles away from teaching hospitals health care providers might face similar challenges as those in the developing countries where equipment is expensive and scarce.

4) Learning from other’s people experiences is an invaluable gift. A professor used to say, “Why repeat the same old mistakes when there are a lot of new mistakes we have not tried yet”. When you hear of other’s mistakes you learn and more importantly you can prepare a better plan for a similar situation.

5) Looking back and reflecting on the critical decisions you’ve made. Recreating the scenarios and avoiding previous mistakes, re-enforces that a positive outcome is possible despite the overwhelming situation.

I firmly believe simulation is a invaluable tool. Knowing that I am helping health care providers to improve their performance at the work place is tremendously gratifying.

Finally, it makes me happy and proud to see my students working with more confidence and knowledge in real emergency situations. I know that in the end patients are the ones who benefit the most from these innovative educational opportunities.

*Marcos Silva Restrepo MD*

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**RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT**

Starting in October of 2013 the SimSinai Centre, in coordination with The University of Toronto Surgical Skills Centre, hosted and assisted in developing a High-fidelity simulation program to assess inter-professional teamwork in obstetric crisis management.
Investigators David W. Hoppe, MBBS, FANZCA – Clinical Fellow, Department of Anesthesia; David Monks, MBChB, FRCA – Clinical Fellow, Department of Anesthesia; Rory Windrim, MD – Associate Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology; Lynn Sharples, RNA – Staff, Department of Nursing; Mary Ellen Cooke, MD – Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesia; Mrinalini Balki, MBBS MD – Associate Professor, Departments of Anesthesia and Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

This is a new simulation workshop looking at both non-technical and technical skills in obstetric emergencies developed and implemented by the study investigators using a model designed and developed by the SSC Senior Manager, Lisa Satterthwaite utilizing The SimSinai Centres mobile SimMan control cart. Participants from anesthesia, obstetrics and nursing participated over a 2 month period. Participants included residents and fellows of anesthesia, residents and fellows of obstetrics, anesthesia assistants and nurses. A total of 126 people took part in the simulation workshops that involved Post Partum Hemorrhage and Pre-Eclampsia. A traditional program of introduction, orientation, simulation and debriefing was utilized providing feedback on teamwork, communication, knowledge and clinical skills. A new interdisciplinary teamwork assessment
scale and procedural checklists were used to provide participant feedback. Participants were also invited to give feedback in regard to the simulation workshop in the form of a survey.

Results are still being investigated. The primary outcome is to establish the validity and reliability of a newly developed interdisciplinary teamwork assessment scale. Secondary outcome measures include identifying areas of poor and good clinical knowledge and skills in pre-eclampsia and PPH management.

## ACLS PRICING AND DATES

### CERTIFICATION
- Physicians/Dentists/IMGs: $490
- RN/Fellows/Paramedics/Residents/Students: $375

### RE-CERTIFICATION
- Physicians/Dentists/IMGs: $450
- RN/Fellows/Paramedics/Residents/Students: $325

### SIMSINAI CENTRE PRICING

**$192.50 PER HOUR**  
- Includes basic technician set up fees  
- AV Equipment  
- Use of Laerdal SimMan (up to 3)  
- Inclusive for hours: M – F 0700 – 1700 hrs  
- Disposable gloves  
- Individual Personal Protective Equipment

**$412.50 PER HOUR**  
Industry rate plus $100 per person fee

**$62.50 PER HOUR**  
Technician OT rate weekends / before 0700 hrs and after 1700 hrs

**$27.50 PER**  
Simulation Moulage – for any extensive make up treatments including products used Video transfers, editing or filming available upon request - pricing subject to request type Equipment rentals available on request – pricing subject to request type

HST NOT included

Further simulation models and supplies along with pricing available upon request.

**NOTE:** All bookings require a completed SimSinai booking form in order to ensure we have all requested items available and set up for you. Estimates are available upon request in conjunction with a completed booking form.

Sessions cancelled with less than 72 hours notice will be subject to a cancelation fee of 50% of the total amount of the estimated course cost.