

Simulation Education for Crisis Team Training

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Abstract

Medical Crisis teams have been shown to decrease cardiac arrest rate and improve mortality among hospitalized patients in a number of before-and-after trials in several nations. The only randomized clinical trial did not show benefit. One reason for this may be inadequate training of the responding team to a crisis event. Suddenly critically ill patients require a coordinated team response, using a predetermined set of equipment. Failure to prepare personnel and equipment for the response may lead to poorer than expected outcomes. Simulation training offers the resources and opportunity to prepare individuals to work as a team in crisis situations. Crisis team training in particular identifies team roles and responsibilities. The template that this course creates enables standardized training, grading during the training process, and perhaps grading during real events.

In this session, the need for crisis teams and team training will be reviewed. The Crisis Team Training course at the University of Pittsburgh will be highlighted, including demonstrating tools used and data showing the benefit of training.