Background

Simulation is “the artificial replication of sufficient components of a real world situation to achieve certain goals” (Gaba, 1997).

Simulation has now become an integral part of training for the health care providers of the future. The Chief Medical Officer (1)report and the Department of Health (2) directives have highlighted the usefulness of simulation and promoted its use for training the next generation of doctors.

We were commissioned by the Yorkshire and Humber Foundation School to develop a simulation based educational course for Year 2 Foundation (FY2) doctors to meet their curriculum and training needs.

Methods

We conducted a focus group interview of FY2 doctors to explore their views on perceived training needs.

We then reviewed the FY2 curriculum to map the course to the specified training objectives.

Based on the above, a pool of ten clinical and ten ethical/communication scenarios was created. A detailed faculty manual has been produced incorporating scenario details, actor scripts and supplementary information such as ECGs, blood investigations etc.

The course will simulate experiences of a Hospital at Night (H@N) team, in a medical/surgical ward and in Accident and Emergency.

Twelve trainees will participate in each course. 180 East Yorkshire trainees were invited to attend the course which is scheduled to take place over 20 separate days between March and June 2014.

Results

Our aim is to create safer doctors through:
- Training in situational awareness
- Consolidating clinical knowledge
- Encouraging positive group feedback
- Encouraging effective communication skills and teamwork, and,
- Building leadership skills

The above objectives will be met through:
- Conducting pre and post course questionnaires
- MCQ test in clinical knowledge
- Clinical debriefing of the candidates.

We will compare the pre-course and post-course questionnaires and MCQ scores.

We hope to demonstrate significant difference in both clinical knowledge and soft skills acquisition.

Key Messages

Use of high fidelity simulation should be encouraged for the training of the medical workforce.

Simulation training can enhance not only doctors’ clinical skills but communication and leadership skills.

References: