Challenges of organising & running a pilot in situ simulation on a rheumatology day unit

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Introduction:
In situ simulation is commonly utilised in acute specialities. However, the potential application in a rheumatology day unit are as important.

Methods:
We successfully ran our first session using an anaphylaxis scenario, with the use of 1 actor, 1 SIMPAD, 2 facilitators, 3 candidates, and there were 3 independent observers from the department.

Results:
All 3 of the independent observers rated the session between good to excellent.

3 candidates took part in the simulation and rated it between good to excellent. 2/3 felt that the session mostly improved their skills and confidence.

Key learning outcomes were how to administer adrenaline and correct dosage.

We obtained approval to run regular sessions.

Challenges:

1. Equipment;
   • Arranging simulation equipment & transfer of equipment from sim centre to ward
   • Ward equipment use for scenario.

2. Time & Faculty
   • timing of scenario so ward staff can participate in scenario
   • Arranging faculty that were located on different sites/trusts

3. Cultural concerns
   • Overcoming staff anxieties over the use of simulation

4. Patient safety
   • Ensuring patient safety on the ward during the running of the scenario as we were taking staff away from their usual clinical role to participate

5. What to do with any clinical governance issues highlighted
   • Use of a modified latent risk scoring sheet s to highlight any obvious concerns, which could then be given to the ward sister & consultant in charge

Future challenges:
• Maintaining momentum & having regular sessions
• Future ‘unadvertised’ session – where candidates unaware of planned session before hand
• Arranging use of appropriate simulation equipment for each session
• Maintaining faculty & recruiting new faculty
• Use of other outside team members i.e. cardiac arrest team
• Ultimate aim of getting ward /department, to run these sessions independently

Personal development:
• Negotiation skills
• Delegation
• Communication
• Leadership
• Team working

The above skills were utilised in order to successfully run this pilot session