

# THE INTRODUCTION OF LOW-COST, INTER-DISCIPLINARY SIMULATION TRAINING INTO THE INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

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# Background and Aim

- Simulation training is effective<sup>1</sup>
- Training in 'intact teams' in the normal working environment may increase realism and validity, decrease anxiety and enhance learning<sup>1</sup>
- The 48-bed Royal Prince Alfred ICU has approximately 250 nursing and 50 medical staff with little prior exposure to simulation training

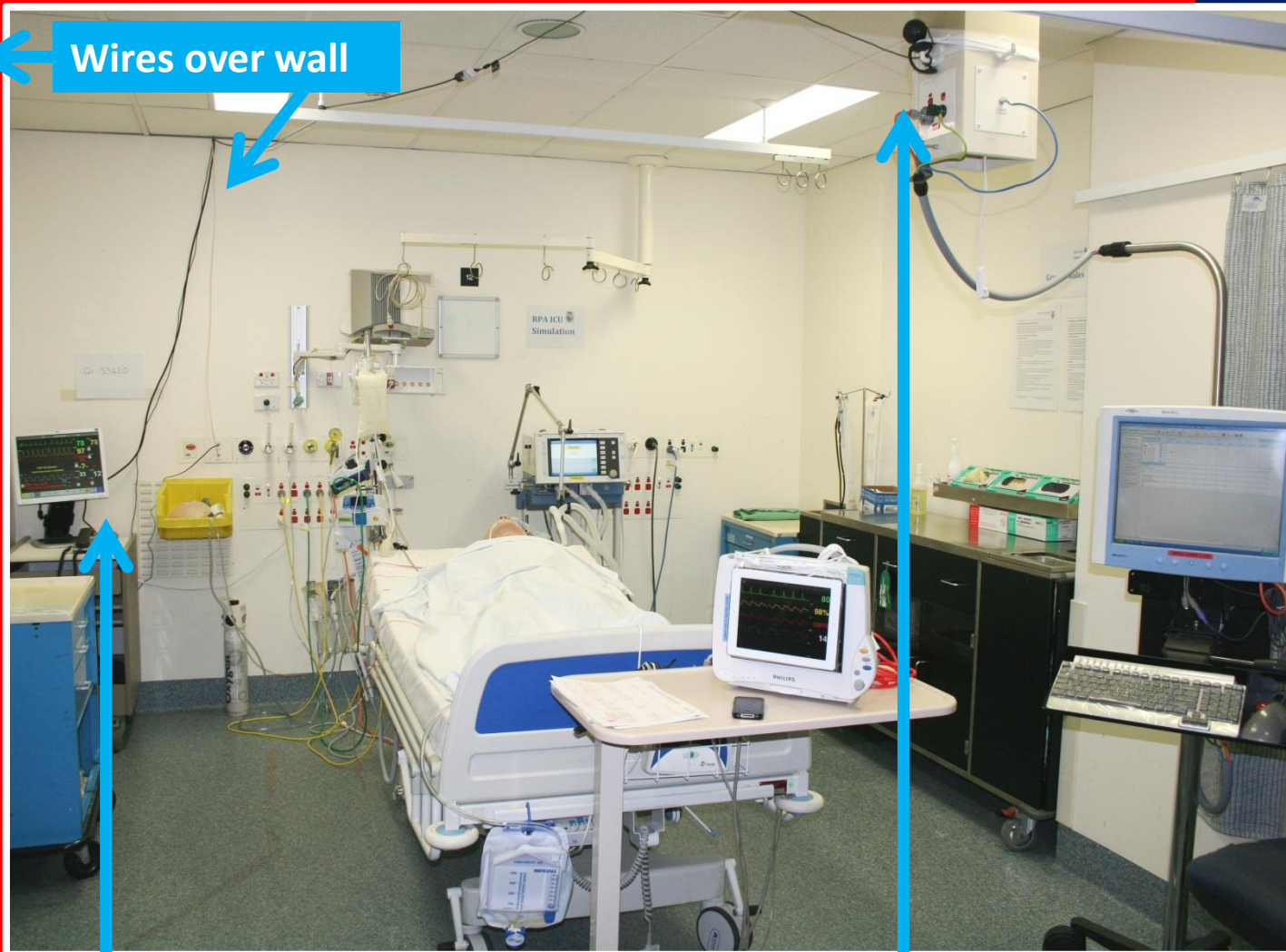
# Methods

- **Simulation was introduced into the teaching schedule in Jan 12:**
- **Who?** Interdisciplinary team
- **Where?** *In-situ* – in a disused ICU bed space
- **When?** Weekly for 1 hour, in nursing shift overlap time
- **What?** Scenarios created to reflect real ward events and local case-mix
- **How?** Participants act in their normal roles, using usual ward equipment and drugs (*to enhance validity and realism*)
- **How much?** The training program was set up for a total cost of \$150
- **Assessment?** Performance observed and feedback provided during a structured and safe teaching and debriefing session
- **Evaluation?** 10-point rating scales and free text on standard evaluation forms

# Sim set-up



Wires over wall



SimMan software on laptop

# Results

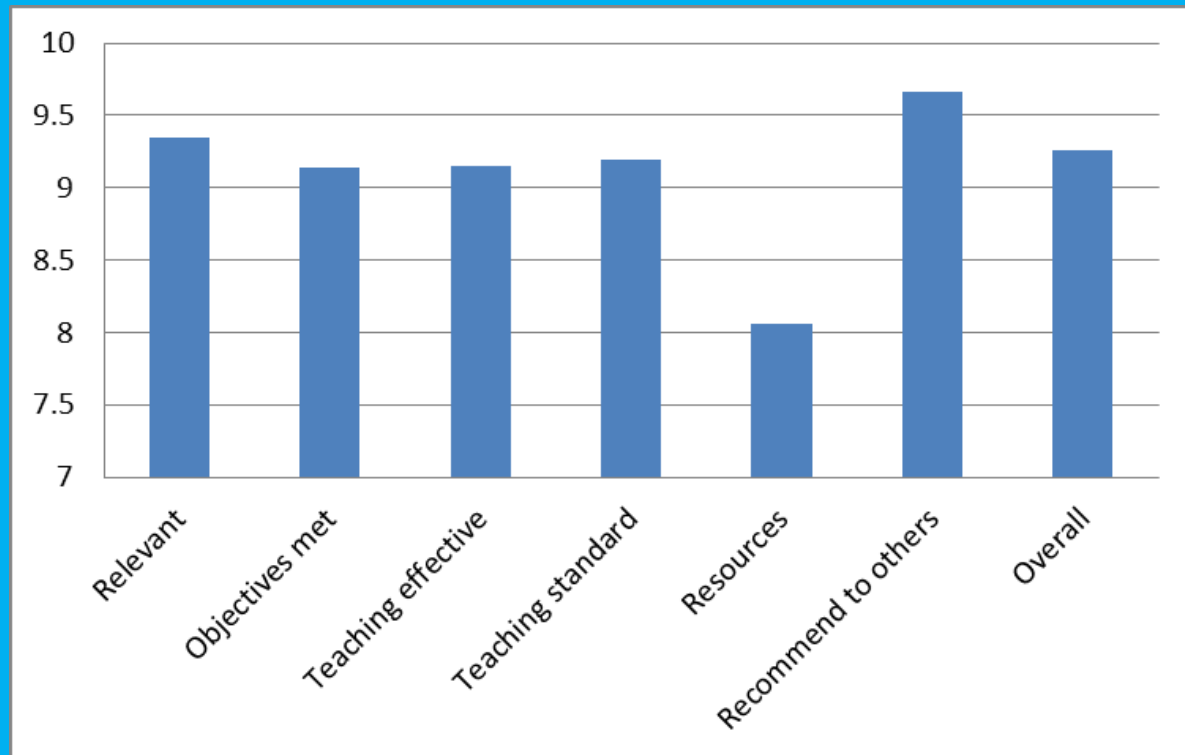
28 sessions

160 participants

– 87 nurses

– 73 doctors

104 observers



# Results

Great to train with doctors and nurses together. Real equipment made it more realistic

Too many people watching

Be more clear about nurses' roles

Very realistic. Informative debrief

Having an audience stops it feeling like a real situation

Realistic. Non-threatening review. Very positive

Orientation for doctors before scenario!

Good to get experience dealing with critical situations

Shouldn't we have cameras and video debriefing?

# Discussion

- The training program has been well received by a large number of medical and nursing staff
- It was provided at low cost with minimal service disruption
- Several local issues and system errors have been identified during the training
- Teaching resources and the presence of an audience were identified as areas for improvement

# Conclusions and Acknowledgments

- *In-situ* simulation training can enhance realism and improve working relationships
- It can be provided at low cost, during the working day
- We have recently secured funding for cameras to be installed for video debriefing
- Thanks to all the staff who have participated in the training, and to RPA Hospital for the funding

