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SIMULATION EXCHANGE

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Excellence in Veterans' Healthcare

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Training Catalog

The VHA SimLEARN National Simulation Center has a variety of courses available throughout the year. Please check often for any upcoming courses on the [SimLEARN course catalog](#).

For more information, visit www.simlearn.va.gov or [send us an e-mail](#).



Orlando nurse practitioner mobilized to New York in support of COVID-19 battle



By Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Scott
Army Reserve Medical Command

ORLANDO, Fla. –Maj. Lisa Hubbard deployed to Afghanistan in 2003, but recently, she had less than 24 hours to gather her equipment and report to serve in an Army Reserve Urban Augmentation Medical Task Force (UAMTF). Hubbard is a nurse practitioner and Simulation Instructor at the VHA SimLEARN National Simulation Center in Orlando, Florida. She also works at the Orlando VA Health Care System in the Emergency Department approximately 10% of her time.

"This is what I signed up for. This is not a job but a calling. I am humbled for the opportunity to help save American lives," stated Hubbard, an Army Reserve Soldier who serves as a 66P, nurse practitioner.

For the rest of the story, click [here](#).

In this photo is Maj. Lisa Hubbard during a deployment to Afghanistan in 2004. Hubbard, an Army Reserve nurse practitioner, is currently mobilized to New York City with an Army Reserve Urban Augmentation Medical Task Force as part of the Department of Defense response to COVID-19. Maj. Hubbard is employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs in Orlando, Florida and traditionally serves in the Miami-based Army Reserve Medical Command's 7217 Medical Support Unit. (Photo courtesy of the Defense Visual Information Distribution Service)

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SimLEARN training courses at National Simulation Center cancelled through August



By Gerald Sonnenberg
EES Marketing and Communication

ORLANDO, Fla. – With the exception of two virtual Trauma Nursing Core Courses, in-person courses offered at the VHA SimLEARN National Simulation Center in Orlando, Florida have been cancelled through August due to ongoing efforts to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Courses scheduled for the rest of the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2020 will be reviewed month to month as to whether they will go on. This situation is fluid, so

please check back often on the [course catalog](#) for updates to the class schedule, check availability, or to enroll in courses.

The following courses are currently scheduled for the rest of FY2020:

- Introduction to Clinical Simulation (ICS) – Sept. 15
- Simulations for Clinical Excellence in Nursing Services (SCENS) – Aug. 31 (possibly occurring as this course goes into September)
- Trauma Nursing Core Course (TNCC) – Aug. 11 (Virtual Classes only – no on-site class in Orlando)
- Maintenance of Certification in Anesthesiology (MOCA) – Sept. 4

If you have questions, please contact EES SimLEARN NSC Support VHASimLEARNNSCSupport@va.gov.

For more information about the SimLEARN program, please visit the [SimLEARN website](#).

The VHA public internet site for COVID-19 training is www.va.gov/COVIDtraining.

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SimLEARN staff step up to aid Veterans in COVID-19 fight



By Gerald Sonnenberg
EES Marketing and Communication

ORLANDO, Fla. –VA staff from around the country have been asked to work even harder as the pandemic of COVID-19 has continued to take its toll. The staff at the VHA SimLEARN National Simulation Center are no exception. Medical and non-medical staff alike at this facility based alongside the Orlando VA Medical Center (VAMC) volunteered early to

assist in this battle against COVID-19.

For the rest of the story, click [here](#).

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New COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment Donning and Doffing application now available in TMS

By Jessica L Feinleib, MD, PhD, CHSE
Medical Director of Simulation
VA Connecticut Health Care System

ORLANDO, Fla. –A new course related to COVID-19 is now available in the VA Talent Management System (TMS). The course, called the [COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) Powered Air Purifying Respirator \(PAPR\) Donning and Doffing](#) training application, can be accessed on your VA computer using Internet Explorer, Google Chrome and Microsoft Edge browsers. The application may also be accessed on IOS devices in Safari by copying and pasting the link: http://www.sharedfedtraining.org/external_content/PPEliveGold/index.html.



For the rest of the story, click [here](#).

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'SON' brings unique services to SimLEARN family



By Sherri Boisvert PhD., MSN, RN
and Michelle Regragui MSHS, BSN, RN
Simulation Outreach Network Simulation Nurse
Educators
VHA SimLEARN National Simulation Center

ORLANDO, Fla. –The Simulation Outreach Network or SON team is part of the SimLEARN family and offers unique services. The services consist of Field-Based Simulation Experiences (FBSE), Systems/Hospital Activations (SHA), Rural Health (RH), as well as a research arm. FBSE brings

intertwined experiences and process improvement initiatives to VA facilities, and FBSE can be intertwined throughout both systems/hospital activations and rural health projects, as well as an event to support an individual facility's simulation training needs.

For the rest of the story, click [here](#).

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Atlanta team addresses Code 99 in the era of COVID-19



By Joyce Akwe MD, MPH, FACP
Chief of Hospital Medicine
Atlanta VA Health Care System

ATLANTA, Ga. – COVID-19 is the disease that made handshaking a taboo, sheltering in place a way of life, social distancing a must do and face masks, a new fashion trend. This disease demands a change in our way of life and changes in the way we care for patients.

COVID-19 is a terrible, fast killing infectious disease. Patients walk into the hospital coughing and can end up dead in a few days. With COVID-19 comes an increase in hospital mortalities and thus the famous, dreaded loudspeaker announcements, "Code 99 room 9c 126, code 99 room 9c 126, code 99 room 9c 126." The heart pounding starts, and the code team realizes that the rules of the game must change in the era of this highly infectious disease.

For the rest of the story, click [here](#).

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Iowa City staff use 'escape room' training to address safety



By Emily Peters, MSN, RN
Simulation Coordinator REI Program Director
Iowa City VA Medical Center

IOWA CITY, Iowa – Staff at the Iowa City VA Medical Center (VAMC) developed an "escape room" scenario to address patient safety from a root cause analysis investigation by patient safety nurses that showed more training was needed to better prevent falls in inpatient units. The education was initially begun in February to coincide with Fall Awareness Month. Iowa City staff use the MORSE Fall scale as a

documentation form that nurses use to assess if a patient has a high fall risk. If the patient has a specific number on the scale staff will take special precautions to help prevent falls.

For the rest of the story, click [here](#).

In this photo, left to right, are Breanna Vantiger, BSN, RN; Rob Philips, RN; Carley Hinrichs, BSN, RN; Brandi Stewart, BSN, RN; standardized patient Randy Keomanivong; and Ashley King, BSN, RN, during the escape room training. (VA courtesy photo)

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