



## Simulation Exchange Volume 9, Issue 4

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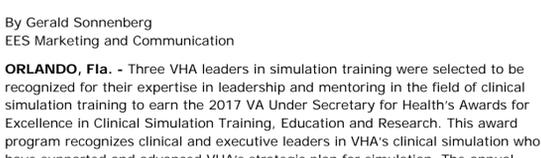
### Training Catalog

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](http://www.simlearn.va.gov) or [send us an e-mail](#).



### Simulation training, education and research expertise earns three VHA leaders top honors



By Gerald Sonnenberg  
EES Marketing and Communication

**ORLANDO, Fla.** - Three VHA leaders in simulation training were selected to be recognized for their expertise in leadership and mentoring in the field of clinical simulation training to earn the 2017 VA Under Secretary for Health's Awards for Excellence in Clinical Simulation Training, Education and Research. This award program recognizes clinical and executive leaders in VHA's clinical simulation who have supported and advanced VHA's strategic plan for simulation. The annual awards were established as a means of promoting and advancing system-wide progress of VHA goals, objectives and strategies for the deployment of clinical simulation to improve the quality of health care Veterans receive.

The following are the selectees and their categories:

- Chan W. Park, M.D., FAEM, director of simulation education and co-director of the Interprofessional Advanced Fellowship in Clinical Simulation at the Durham VA Medical Center (VAMC) in Durham, North Carolina, is the recipient of the Excellence in Clinical Simulation Training, Education and Research Practice Award.
- **Mary Ellen Elias**, MSN, RN-BC, VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System simulation coordinator, and co-director Interprofessional Advanced Fellowship in Clinical Simulation, is the recipient of the Excellence in Clinical Simulation Training, Education and Research Champion Award.
- Wilma Ayala, Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), MS, RN, Nurse educator-BC, Resuscitation Education Initiative (REdI) program director at the VA North Texas Health Care System in Dallas was selected as the recipient of the Excellence in Clinical Simulation Training, Education and Research Champion Award for REdI.

For the rest of the story and more about the award recipients, [click here](#).

### Wheelchair Prescription course helps staff make a difference in the lives of Veterans



By Gerald Sonnenberg  
EES Marketing and Communication

**ORLANDO, Fla.** - Approximately 100 VHA staff from Veteran Integrated Service Network medical facilities (VISN) participated in a "hands on" wheelchair prescription course July 24-26 at the VHA SimLEARN National Simulation Center (NSC). It was sponsored jointly by the Rehabilitation and Prosthetics Services Program Office, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Service (PM&R) and the Spinal Cord Injury and Disorders Program Office.

This is the second year this type of training took place at the NSC. But unlike last year's assistive technology course, this training "concentrated on wheelchair prescription including basic manual wheelchairs, custom manual wheelchairs, scooters, power wheelchairs, specialized sports wheelchairs and handcycles," said Bill Wenninger, MS, PT, a rehabilitation planning specialist at PM&R Central Office based at the Milwaukee VA Medical Center (VAMC). He is the primary planner and coordinator of the event.

Veterans with mobility issues require specialized equipment and interdisciplinary care delivery to optimize their care and function. Clinicians in these specialized clinics need to collaborate closely with prosthetic and sensory aids service representatives to obtain the most appropriate mobility device for the Veteran. This face-to-face conference provided attendees the opportunity to handle, manipulate and program the various wheeled mobility devices to help them understand set-up, application and educational needs as they relate to Veterans with disabilities.

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

(Left to right) Jim Sursley, Vietnam Veteran and former commander of the Disabled American Veterans, and Robin Blount, physical therapist with the Charleston, South Carolina VA Medical Center, discuss wheelchair issues for Veterans. (VA photo by Randy McCracken)

### Training for fiscal year 2019 now available

By Gerald Sonnenberg  
EES Marketing and Communication

**ORLANDO, Fla.** - A full slate of simulation training courses in fiscal year 2019 are now available for which staff can now register. These courses at the VHA SimLEARN National Simulation Center (NSC) include:

**Simulation, Technology, Operations, Maintenance, and Procedures (STOMP)**

**Trauma Nursing Core Course (TNCC)**

**Fundamental Critical Care Support**

**Introduction to Clinical Simulation**

**Point of Care UltraSound (POCUS)**

and more.

To see a full list of available courses, as well as information about each course and how to register, [click here](#).



### SimLEARN introduces updated STOMP training course



By Daniel Desormeaux  
Education Project Manager  
VHA SimLEARN National Simulation Center

**ORLANDO, Fla.** - VHA staff attended the Simulation, Technology, Operations, Maintenance and Procedures (STOMP) 101 pilot course, the week of June 25 at the VHA SimLEARN National Simulation Center (NSC). The STOMP course was recently updated with new offerings planned for Fiscal Year 2019.

The course provides participants with the baseline knowledge of local simulation program infrastructure and life cycle management of simulation assets, as well as basic hands-on skills to operate, maintain and recognize common deficiencies.

The target audience is comprised of novice personnel assigned to operate and maintain simulation assets within a facility. STOMP 101 teaches operations and maintenance of various mannequins and basic task trainers required to conduct immersive and valuable medical simulation training. This course combines small group and hands-on simulation activities where participants can demonstrate the competencies necessary to accomplish basic operations and functions within a simulated environment.

For more information about STOMP 101 and other NSC courses, [click here](#).

In this image, students conduct preventive maintenance on a mannequin. (Left to right) Theresa Houston, nurse educator; Brenda Nielsen, training technician; Cathy Beamer, nurse educator; and James Bloodgood, STOMP 101 faculty. (VA photo by Daniel Desormeaux)

### Simulation Bus used for training by international nursing students

By Janet Sprehe DNP, APN-BC, CVRN, RN-BC  
Program Director of Simulations/REdI  
Tampa VA Medical Center



**TAMPA, Fla.** - International collaboration brings health care providers with similar research interests and passions together to share talents and resources to help address mutual areas of concern. The James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital (JAHVH) and clinics has a mobile Simulation Bus that teaches facility staff and outside community agency staff about disaster preparedness, while it also informs the community how Veterans' hospitals can deploy their dual use vehicles (DUV) and utilize the vehicles in national emergencies.

This past spring semester, the University of South Florida (USF) College of Nursing had the opportunity to host 16 nursing students from Scotland. The sixteen nursing students were in their community nursing rotation and were excited to learn about America's perspectives and cultures, as well as what drives them.

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

In this image, Dr. Carol Wilson, simulation faculty (second from right), discusses the triage color scheme for disasters with the Scottish nursing students. (VA courtesy photo)

### Mobile simulation team conducts musculoskeletal training in Wisconsin and Michigan



By Kristen Hanten, RN, MSN & Lisa Hubbard, ARNP  
Mobile Simulation Training Team

**OMAHA, Neb.** - SimLEARN's Mobile Simulation Training Team (MSTT) mission is to maximize training capacities at the local-facility level by bringing simulation-based training to health care facilities. During July 23-26 and July 29 - Aug. 4, MSTT completed Musculoskeletal (MSK) knee and shoulder course training at the VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain, Michigan; and Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC) in Rhineland, Wisconsin; and Marquette, Michigan; as well as an outreach clinic in Manistique, Michigan.

This face-to-face simulation training is designed to enhance primary care providers' knowledge, skills and confidence to manage common MSK problems. In addition, this training emphasizes appropriate resource utilization and access to specialty care. MSK complaints account for approximately 20 percent of visits to primary care and urgent care clinics each year. The target audience for this training includes physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants which staff primary care clinics and complaints, this training can be quite valuable for these providers as well.

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

During training, Nurse Practitioner Colleen Burton performs a knee exam to stress the medial collateral ligament on Dr. Lee Morrow, MSTT provider educator. (VA photo by Kristen Hanten)

### Resuscitation Education Initiative recognizes training milestone

**SIOUX FALLS, S.D.** - The Sioux Falls VA Health Care System was recognized as the 100th VA medical center (VAMC) to implement the American Heart Association's new model of Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) and Basic Life Support (BLS) certification, known as Resuscitation Quality Improvement (ROI).

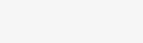
This is the newest way for health care employees to maintain competency and certification, which is required for ACLS and BLS. It combines online learning with hands-on assessments using simulation equipment. This program was piloted in July 2016 at VAMCs in Topeka, Kansas; Asheville, North Carolina, and Pittsburgh.

In this image, (right to left) Donald Anderson, Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) and Bob Godes, Nuclear Medicine Technologist (CNMT), conduct ROI training. (VA photo by Shirley Redmond)



Simulation Exchange is an award-winning publication of the VHA SimLEARN National Simulation Center. The program's operations and management is conducted by the VHA Employee Education System in close collaboration with the Office of Patient Care Services and the Office of Nursing Services. Some links go directly to sites that can only be accessed by people who have access to the VA network. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Please share this message with others. To subscribe click [here](#). For more information, visit [www.simlearn.va.gov](http://www.simlearn.va.gov).

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