



Simulation Exchange Volume 11, Issue 1

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SIMULATION EXCHANGE

SimLEARN
Excellence in Veterans' Healthcare
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Your Source for VHA Simulation News

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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](#).



Arizona VA Medical Centers Hold Inaugural RNTTP and Simulation Summit



By *Jacque Cushard, RN*
Simulation Center Program Director
RN Transition-to-Practice (RNTTP) Residency Program Manager
Phoenix VA Health Care System

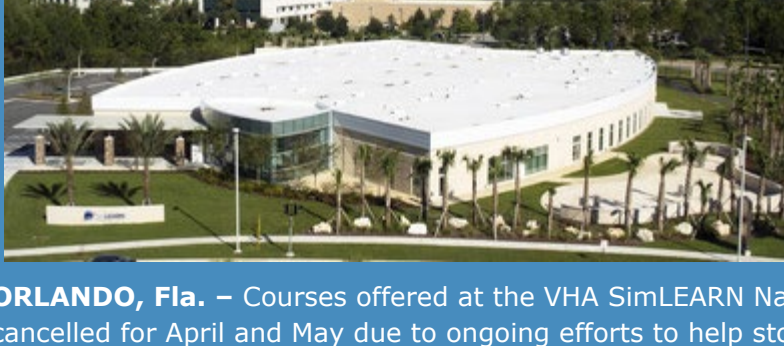
PHOENIX – Staff at the Phoenix VA Health Care System (PVAHCS) hosted the "AZ Inaugural RN Transition-to-Practice (RNTTP) & Simulation Summit" on Feb. 6. RN Transition-to-Practice Program coordinators and simulation program directors from Arizona VA medical centers in Prescott, Tucson and Phoenix gathered at the PVAHCS to participate. The summit provided an opportunity to connect and inspire communities through collaboration.

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

In this photo, Dr. Leslie Lockridge, RN; Bernadette Montano, MSN, RN; Myra Whitt, MSN, RN; Jacqueline Mench, MSN-ED; Mary Ann Thompson, MSN, RN; Jacque Cushard, RN; and Gloria Gdovin, DNP, RN, stand next to a simulation mannequin. (VA photo by Darlene Seltmann)

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SimLEARN Training Courses Cancelled for April, May



By *Gerald Sonnenberg*
EES Marketing and Communication

ORLANDO, Fla. – Courses offered at the VHA SimLEARN National Simulation Center have been cancelled for April and May due to ongoing efforts to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus. A limited number of courses are currently offered for June during the third quarter of fiscal year 2020. However, check back often on the [course catalog](#) for updates to the class schedule, check availability, or to enroll in courses.

The following courses are scheduled to take place in June 2020:

- Fundamentals of Critical Care Support (FCCS) June 16
- Introduction to Clinical Simulation (ICS) June 2
- Maintenance of Certification of Anesthesia (MOCA) June 12 and June 26
- Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) June 16
- Simulations for Clinical Excellence in Nursing Services (SCENS) June 8 and June 22

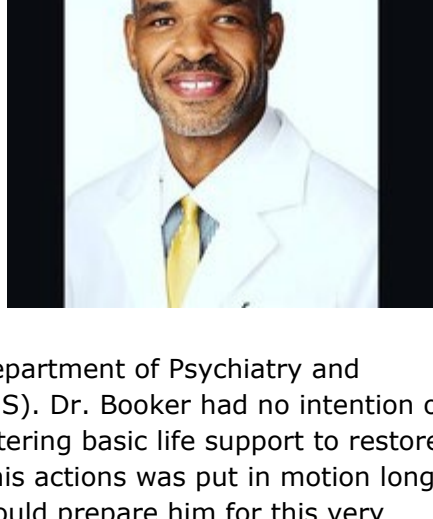
If you have questions, please contact EES SimLEARN NSC Support EESsimLEARNNSCSupport@va.gov.

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

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VA Doctor's BLS Skills Through REI Program Aid in Preserving life

By *Medina Ayala-Lo*
Public Affairs Specialist
VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System



LOS ANGELES –Only 50 seconds left on the clock and the gymnasium is abuzz with excitement as a flurry of limbs whiz that orange sphere down the court. Wide-eyed spectators watch with anticipation as they wait for the answer to one question; who will take the game? Suddenly, hope turns to horror as Edward Waters, the head coach of the home team, makes a brutal descent to the hardwood floor. No breath. No pulse. He is completely still. In an instant, people are upon him and an eternity begins as they work frantically to save his life.

Among those people was Kevin Booker, Ph.D., trauma specialist, Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health, VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (VAGLAHS). Dr. Booker had no intention of attending the game that evening and yet, he found himself administering basic life support to restore life to another human being. Unbeknownst to him, the catalyst for his actions was put in motion long before this horrid night in a series of realizations and events that would prepare him for this very moment.

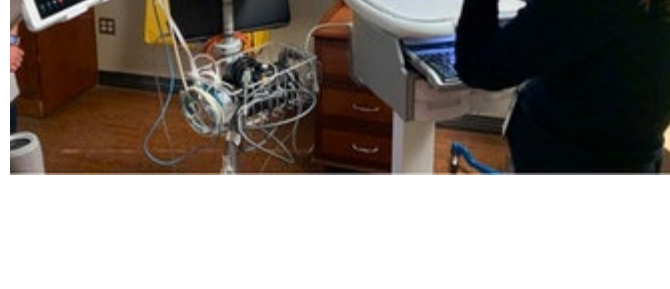
For the rest of the story, click [here](#).

In this image is Kevin Booker, Ph.D., trauma specialist, Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health, VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (VAGLAHS). He recently helped save a life using skills he gained through SimLEARN's Resuscitation Education Initiative program. (VA courtesy photo)

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Simulation Technology Supports VA National Telestroke Program

By *David J. Adriansen, Ed.D, NREMT, CHSE*
NTSP Director of Simulation
VA National Telestroke Program, Office of Rural Health



MINNEAPOLIS – The VA National Telestroke Program (NTSP) serves Veterans with acute stroke symptoms at VA emergency departments, urgent care centers and hospitals. Each year, approximately 4,500 Veterans are diagnosed with an acute ischemic stroke (AIS), according to the Office of Rural Health. Stroke is the fifth leading cause of death in the United States, and the leading cause of serious long-term disability.

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

In this photo, a Birmingham, Alabama VA nurse consults with an NTSP neurologist via mobile technology. (VA courtesy photo)

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SimLEARN Team Conducts TNCC Training in Puerto Rico



By *Jonathan Borgwing, MSEd*
Associated Director for Training and
Scott Wiltz, MD, MPH, FFAFP
Associate Medical Director for Training
VHA SimLEARN National Simulation Center

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico - During the week of Jan. 6, a team of staff members from the VHA SimLEARN National Simulation Center (NSC) in Orlando, Florida traveled to the VA Caribbean Health Care System (HCS) facility in San Juan to train instructors in Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) Trauma Nursing Core Course (TNCC) curriculum.

The team consisted of two registered nurses ENA TNCC faculty members, Susie Martenson, MS, RN-BC, CEN, CFRN, a State ENA TNCC faculty member and course director; and Jennifer McGuigan, MSN, MA, CEN, ENA TNCC director. In addition, two simulation technicians James Bloodgood, paramedic and Ivan Rosado; as well as Theodore Napolitano, MS, project manager, helped train the staff in San Juan. This training allows San Juan staff to increase the numbers of attendees at their monthly TNCC virtual classes with SimLEARN serving as the Course Director by utilizing SimLEARN Skype access, with hands-on practice and testing completed by the on-site faculty.

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

In this photo, (Left to Right) Jennifer McGuigan, RN, NSC national faculty, TNCC course director/instructor; Charlotte Correa, RN, VA Caribbean HCS, new TNCC instructor; Carmen Osorio, RN, VA Caribbean HCS, new TNCC instructor; Jimmy Bloodgood, paramedic, NSC simulation specialist; Sandra Lopez, RN, VA Caribbean HCS, new TNCC instructor; Ivan Rosado, NSC simulation technician; Susie Martenson, RN, NSC national faculty, TNCC state faculty/course director; Ted Napolitano, project manager, NSC; Edwin Negron-Cortes, RN, VA Caribbean HCS, TNCC course director and PR virtual TNCC coordinator. (VA courtesy photo)

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VA Staff Member Presents VA Innovation at International Meeting

By *Gerald Sonnenberg*
EES Marketing and Communication

AMSTERDAM, the Netherlands – Dr. Jessica Feinleib, MD, Ph.D., medical director of simulation and staff anesthesiologist at the VA Connecticut Health Care System, recently attended the World Airway Management Meeting (WAMM) in Amsterdam to present on the VA educational health care game-based learning product entitled Difficult Airway Algorithm and Rescue Cricothyrotomy or DAARC.



This award-winning educational game was developed specifically by the VHA Employee Education System's (EES) eLearning Division in conjunction with subject matter experts from specialty care in anesthesiology and emergency medicine for anesthesiologists, emergency physicians, nurse anesthetists and respiratory therapists. The learning product is designed to train them to safely practice decision-making and step-by-step procedures necessary in the event of a difficult airway scenario in an operating or emergency room. Learners who 'play' the game on their computer or as an iPad or iPhone application receive continuing medical education credits and maintenance of certification in anesthesiology.

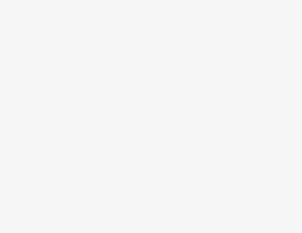
The WAMM meeting brings together about 2,000 health care professionals involved in airway management worldwide to share their innovations and experience.

In this photo, Dr. Jessica Feinleib, MD, Ph.D., (fourth from the right) medical director of simulation and staff anesthesiologist at the VA Connecticut Health Care System, stands with other presenters during the World Airway Management Meeting in Amsterdam. (VA courtesy photo)

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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.



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