

When Seconds Count : Cardiac Arrest

The Registered Nurse First Assistant Perspective

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Objectives

- Learners practice delegating tasks needed to facilitate patient care during an arrest in the OR.
- Learners demonstrate the use of effective closed loop communication under stress.
- Learners demonstrate prioritization of tasks to prepare the patient for emergent sternotomy.



Background

- Effective communication and decisive clinical judgement during a code can be the difference between life and death.
- Simulation Based Training (SBT) is a recognized education technique that can be used to resemble real-life events in a low stress environment.
- Intraoperative arrest scenarios are well suited for the simulation-based environment as they are events that happen infrequently during training.

Scenario Overview

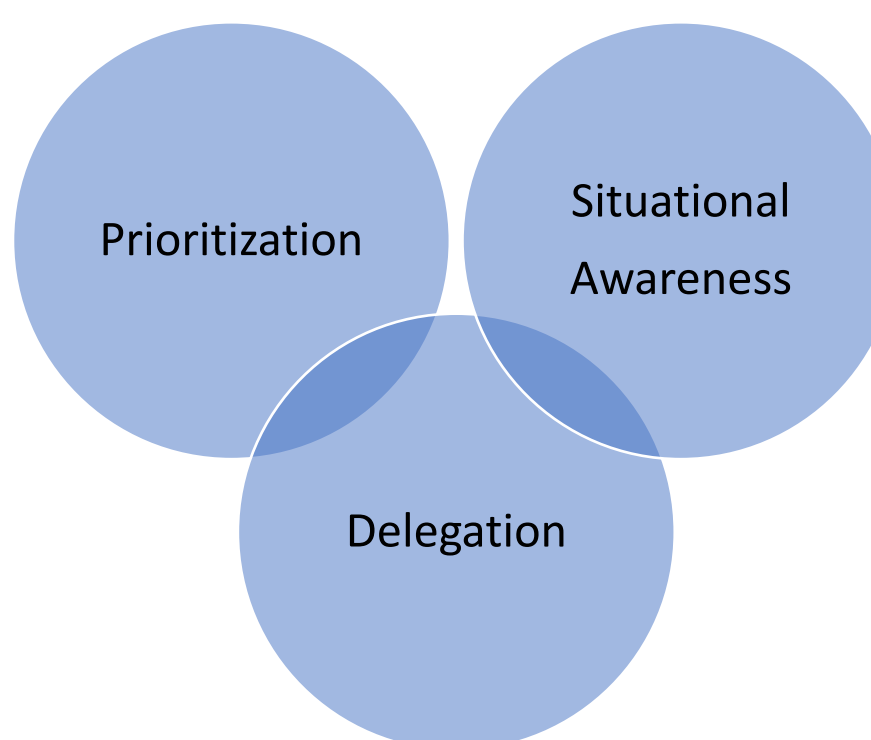
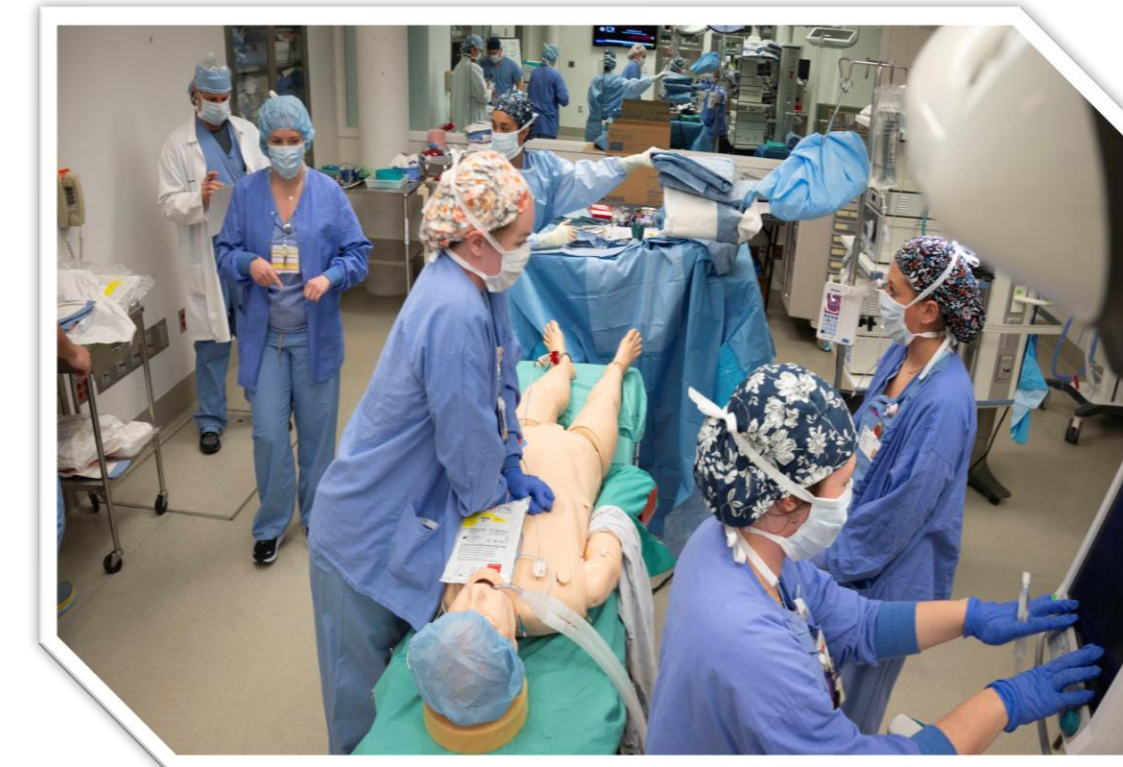
- Before participating, learners complete a CME Accredited, online learning module that covers, goals and objectives, roles, expectations and cardiac anatomy.
- Learners are placed in a simulated cardiac OR.
- Time is given for them to set up and acquire supplies for their case.
- Patient is brought into the OR awake and alert.
- A team huddle is performed.
- Cardiac arrest occurs soon after induction.
- The learners are responsible for delegating or performing tasks needed to prepare the patient for an emergent sternotomy.
- Learners are responsible for preparing for initiation of cannulation for cardiopulmonary bypass.
- Learners are to utilize effective closed loop communication with team members.
- Delegating or performing necessary tasks to efficiently prepare the patient to be positioned, prepped draped and ready for incision.

OR Team Members within simulation

- RNFA/PA
- Circulator
- Scrub Tech
- Anesthesia Provider
- Perfusionist

Implications

- Prioritization, Delegation and situational awareness.
- When healthcare providers are brought together in an integrated fashion, they learn how to better manage patients.
- The team training and communication aspects of team-based training, introduce one of the system integration pillars of improving unit culture of safety.



Outcomes

- Continuing Medical Education credit awarded to all participants.
- Post simulation Debriefing discussion where learners view a video of their attempt and participate in a group discussion.
- Documented employee satisfaction scores from all participants.
- Completed post simulation evaluation by ALL participants.

