



## Fact Sheet - Simulation at Billings Clinic

Simulation imitates real world processes and is used to educate healthcare professionals to respond quickly and accurately to all kinds of healthcare scenarios. An increasing body of knowledge suggests that patient care providers using evidence-based simulation as part of their initial and ongoing training are able to demonstrate improvements in patient outcomes.

### How Simulation Works

Simulation promotes experiential learning using realistic equipment and settings in a safe environment where healthcare professionals can practice patient care. The care performed may include everything from common clinical experiences to high risk but low occurrence situations. In addition, a focus on interprofessional team interactions sharpens communication and support skills that are so essential to providing the experience our patients expect and deserve.

### Why Billings Clinic Offers Simulation and Who Benefits

Patients and families receive the benefit of simulation trained health care professionals. Simulated experience improves quality, safety, value and service for patients and families across the region. All professionals caring for patients and families at Billings Clinic benefit from working with highly functioning teams and collaborative staff

### Location of the Simulation Lab

On site at Billings Clinic in the new **Simulation Experiential and Learning Lab** which is located in the basement below the Cancer Center. "In Situ" simulation scenarios may also be performed in clinical units or public areas.

### Equipment and Processes Used

Equipment incorporates state of the art high fidelity human patient simulators (manikins), a variety of task trainers, actual patient care supplies and sophisticated audio/visual equipment for recording of performance during simulation scenarios for subsequent debriefing.

The SELL also uses Standardized Patients (SP) to both teach and evaluate student performance. SPs are individuals trained to portray patients with health care needs in order to provide consistent learning opportunities for students from varied disciplines.

### Standards and "Best Practices" for Using Simulation

- Simulation has historically been used in various forms for healthcare professionals to their roles. Recent focus on quality and patient safety has led to research and the development of international standards. The Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSIH) and the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Nursing (INASCL) are leaders in defining simulation standards and practices. INASCL Standards are highlighted below:
  - Develop consistent terminology
  - Exercise professional integrity (mutual respect, confidentiality, create safe environment)
  - Create clear objectives for participants (congruent with adult learning theory, participant knowledge level, and current evidence)

- Use appropriate facilitation methods and trained facilitators
- Incorporate debriefing (learning depends on integrating experience and reflection)
- Provide feedback to improve performance and behavior

Billings Clinic's commitment to excellence is evident through the integration of evidence-based practice and design during the development and execution of this new opportunity for multidisciplinary health care professionals to work together to improve clinical practice and teamwork for the sake of the patients and families we serve.