



IMPROVING OBSTETRIC ANAESTHESIA TRAINING WITH MULTIDISCIPLINARY MATERNAL MEDICINE SIMULATION

Dr Neil Choudhuri, Dr Danielle Davies, Dr Sarah Woods, Dr Alex Rutherford, Dr Alex van der Meer

Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Swindon, UK



INTRODUCTION

Following a quality panel recommendation that obstetric anaesthesia training at our hospital required improvement, we introduced a multidisciplinary maternal medicine simulation half-day for anaesthetic residents. The Ockenden Report has emphasized that the anaesthetist's role on the labour ward should extend beyond providing pain relief and anaesthesia.¹ The “Better Births” report in 2016 also stressed that multiprofessional teams that work together should also train together to improve communication and shared understanding.² By including anaesthetists in this multidisciplinary training, we aimed to enhance patient care, foster better teamwork, and improve obstetric anaesthesia training experience for rotating residents.

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Several Links to Stage 1 Curriculum

Team Working TW_S1_AF

Professional Behaviours and
Communication PB_S1_AI

Safety and Quality Improvement
SQ_S1_AK

Education and Training ET_S1_AI

Perioperative Medicine PM_S1_NN

General Anaesthesia GA_S1_QR

Intensive Care IM_S1_KK

METHODOLOGY



Anaesthetic residents were assigned to maternal medicine simulation half-day sessions.



Learners included medical registrars, obstetricians and midwives alongside anaesthetists

SIMULATION SCENARIOS INCLUDED:



Chest pain in pregnancy



Post Partum Headache and Seizures



Shortness of breath in 3rd Trimester



Cardiac arrhythmias in 3rd trimester

- MULTIDISCIPLINARY FACULTY
- ACTORS (NO MANNEQUINS)
- SIMULATION FELLOWS AND SUITE

RESULTS



7 half-day simulation sessions held



Feedback obtained from 35 learners (medical / obstetric and anaesthetic background)



Over the last 4 sessions held in the past 9 months, 8 residents in anaesthesia participated



34 out of 35 learners rated the session's usefulness as 5 out of 5

Feedback Themes

MDT collaboration helping interdisciplinary learning and teamwork

Realism in scenario helped by real actors rather than mannequins

“ Good MDT approach, great opportunity to work with the anaesthetists and O+G ”

“ ...excellent afternoon which surpassed all expectations for valuable learning... ”

“ Excellent scenarios with lots of detail. Very interesting debriefs. ”

Discussions between teams provided opportunities to explore different specialties approaches to the same issue

Appreciation of the chance to reflect on human factors and impact of teamwork in clinical setting

Educational value praised for being realistic, practical and relevant

Supportive and friendly environment

“ The patient + family interactions were realistic, as well as the pressure of the scenarios ”

CONCLUSIONS ▶

Two quality panel meetings have occurred since the introduction of anaesthetists to these simulation days and both have identified improvements in obstetric anaesthesia training at the hospital. The multidisciplinary nature of the teaching has received positive feedback from all three specialties involved. We believe this has led to a greater appreciation of teamwork, human factors and interdisciplinary communication in the management of more complex maternity patients.

References:

1. Ockenden report – Final findings, conclusions and essential actions from the Independent Review of Maternity Services at The Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust.
2. National Maternity Review. Better births: improving outcomes of maternity services in England – a five year forward view for maternity care.