TITLE: High-Fidelity Simulation Training for Health Care Professionals: Cost Effectiveness and Guidelines

DATE: 14 May 2014

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the comparative cost-effectiveness of high-fidelity versus medium- or low-fidelity simulation training for health care professionals?

2. What are the evidence-based guidelines regarding the provision of high-fidelity simulation training for health care professionals?

KEY MESSAGE

One economic evaluation was identified regarding the comparative cost-effectiveness of high-fidelity versus medium-fidelity simulation training for health care professionals.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including PubMed, The Cochrane Library (2014, Issue 4), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. Methodological filters were applied to limit retrieval to health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, economic studies, and guidelines. Where possible, retrieval was limited to the human population. The search was also limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2009 and April 30, 2014. Internet links were provided, where available.

The summary of findings was prepared from the abstracts of the relevant information. Please note that data contained in abstracts may not always be an accurate reflection of the data contained within the full article.
RESULTS

Rapid Response reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by economic evaluations and evidence-based guidelines.

One economic evaluation regarding the comparative cost-effectiveness of high-fidelity versus medium-fidelity simulation training for health care professionals was identified. No relevant health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, or evidence-based guidelines were identified.

Additional references of potential interest are provided in the appendix.

OVERALL SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

One economic evaluation\(^1\) was identified that compared the cost-effectiveness of providing nursing training with high-fidelity versus medium-fidelity patient simulation manikins. The results of this evaluation demonstrated that, in order to achieve the same outcomes in skills achievements and levels of student satisfaction, the cost of high-fidelity simulation was approximately five times higher per student than that of medium-fidelity simulation. The authors concluded that the use of medium-fidelity patient simulation manikins was more cost-effective than high-fidelity manikins.
REFERENCES SUMMARIZED

Health Technology Assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses
No literature identified.

Economic Evaluations


Guidelines and Recommendations
No literature identified.

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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses

Effects of High-Fidelity Simulation Training on Knowledge and Skills


Economic Evaluations

Costs Not Limited to High-Fidelity Simulation


Alternate Comparator


Guidelines and Recommendations – Unclear Methodology


Review Articles

Additional References