

JUST-IN-TIME IN-SITU SIMULATION REFRESHER TRAINING FOR THE PERIOPERATIVE CARE OF COVID-19 PATIENTS

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Introduction/Problem

Our just-in-time in-situ simulation training program, initially developed and implemented during the first surge in March 2020, was reformatted in order to deliver refresher training to perioperative staff members, from anesthesia, nursing and surgery staff members.

In order to keep our practice of safe COVID-19 patients care in the perioperative setting and in anticipation of the second surge of COVID-19, we provided in-situ training to “refresh” staff members on the hospital updated specific workflow.

Aim/Goal

The goal of the training was to assure staff readiness to safely provide care for COVID-19 patients, minimize viral exposure and reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 to healthcare workers in the perioperative setting.

The Interventions

- Refresher training was delivered over the course of 5 days in late November 2020, it was available to each hospital site within the BI network. Attendance at each station/simulation scenario was tracked using a QR code, which also contained a post-training question to assess knowledge of key concepts within each station.
- Given routine operating continued during the second wave, (staff members not readily available and operating rooms would be occupied), we reformatted our COVID-19 training program to include several modalities; online learning using a video recording, in-person training using drop-in stations and didactic sessions through joint town hall meetings and grand round presentations.
- Training Focused on donning & doffing of personal protective equipment (PPE), performing a COVID-19 specific pre-operative huddle, and the use of appropriate infection control measures when intubating or extubating.

Results

	In-person	Virtual	Grand Total
Anesthesia	199	73	272
Surgery	12	4	16
Nursing	129	29	158
Grand Total	340	106	446

Feedback

- Feedback reflected an appreciation for the brevity, the ability to complete training using the preferred modality of the participant and the timeliness.
- Feedback from staff members who were involved in the perioperative care of COVID-19 patients, confirmed that appropriate protocols were followed in nearly 90% of all COVID-19 cases.

