



IDFPR/IL Center for Nursing

Expanding Education Capacity: Illinois Simulation Lab Survey and Asset Mapping Report

Background:

There is a growing demand for healthcare professionals in Illinois. Expanding educational capacity is vital to ensuring the supply of a well qualified and highly skilled workforce.

In June 2008, the State of Illinois, along with eighteen other states, was chosen to participate in a national summit on nursing education capacity, sponsored by the Center to Champion Nursing in America, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the U.S. Department of Labor. During the summit, all state teams were encouraged to develop action plans addressing desired changes and pathways to achievement. One of the action plans identified by TEAM ILLINOIS was to develop a plan for expansion of clinical simulation opportunities in Illinois.

The IDFPR/Illinois Center for Nursing (ICN, www.illinois.gov) was identified as primary lead in this project with support from the Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council (MCHC, www.mchc.com), Connect SI (www.connectsi.us) and mid-state Team Illinois members. The first step in the simulation action plan was to develop a survey to map current simulation laboratory capacity in Illinois.

In 2009, the ICN Advisory Board developed the survey to map clinical simulation labs in Illinois, the level of simulation in use and the primary users of these facilities. Definitions of simulation levels were created and accompanied the survey.

Objectives:

- Map out clinical simulation lab space in the state of Illinois
- Identify ways programs are using simulation for teaching
- Identify resources facilities need to utilize simulation laboratories for education
- Determine needs and collect data for potential future collaboration and funding

Methodology:

The IDFPR/Illinois Center for Nursing (ICN), in partnership with the Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council (MCHC), Illinois Hospital Association (IHA) and The Illinois HomeCare Council (IHCC) distributed an on-line survey of Illinois health care simulation labs in May, 2009. Over 124 Illinois Nursing Education Programs, 8 Medical Education Programs (with eleven campuses), 200 hospitals and 263 IHCC members within Illinois received the survey.

The ICN Advisory Board of Directors adapted simulation definitions, primarily from the National League for Nursing (NLN), for distribution with the survey: simulation, low, medium and high fidelity simulation and standardized patient. Initially two separate surveys were developed, one for distribution to health care institutions, and one to educational institutions. These surveys were then vetted through a convenience group of Illinois nursing simulation lab experts. While

working with MCHC, IHA, and IHCC, in part to facilitate survey participation, the questions were collapsed into one survey for on-line distribution.

The on-line survey was individually distributed once by each partner to their membership on May 19, 2009 with a return date of June 1, 2009. ICN distributed the survey to the Deans and Directors of Illinois Approved Nursing Education Programs as well as to individual contacts at each IL Medical School campus. Distribution occurred prior to the academic summer session.

Findings:

Overall 150 Illinois institutions responded to the survey, of which:

- 66 Responses were from nursing schools
 - 34 two year (ADN-RN) programs of 46 total programs in Illinois
 - 26 four year (BSN-RN) schools of 30 total programs in Illinois
 - 2 LPN programs
 - 2 BSN completion/post-RN licensure programs
- 1 Hospital RN program
- 9 Medical schools responded of 11 total campuses in Illinois

The question: which type of institution/facility/program do you represent? (please check only one), there were a total of 152 responses. The majority of responses were from education programs, nursing and medicine:

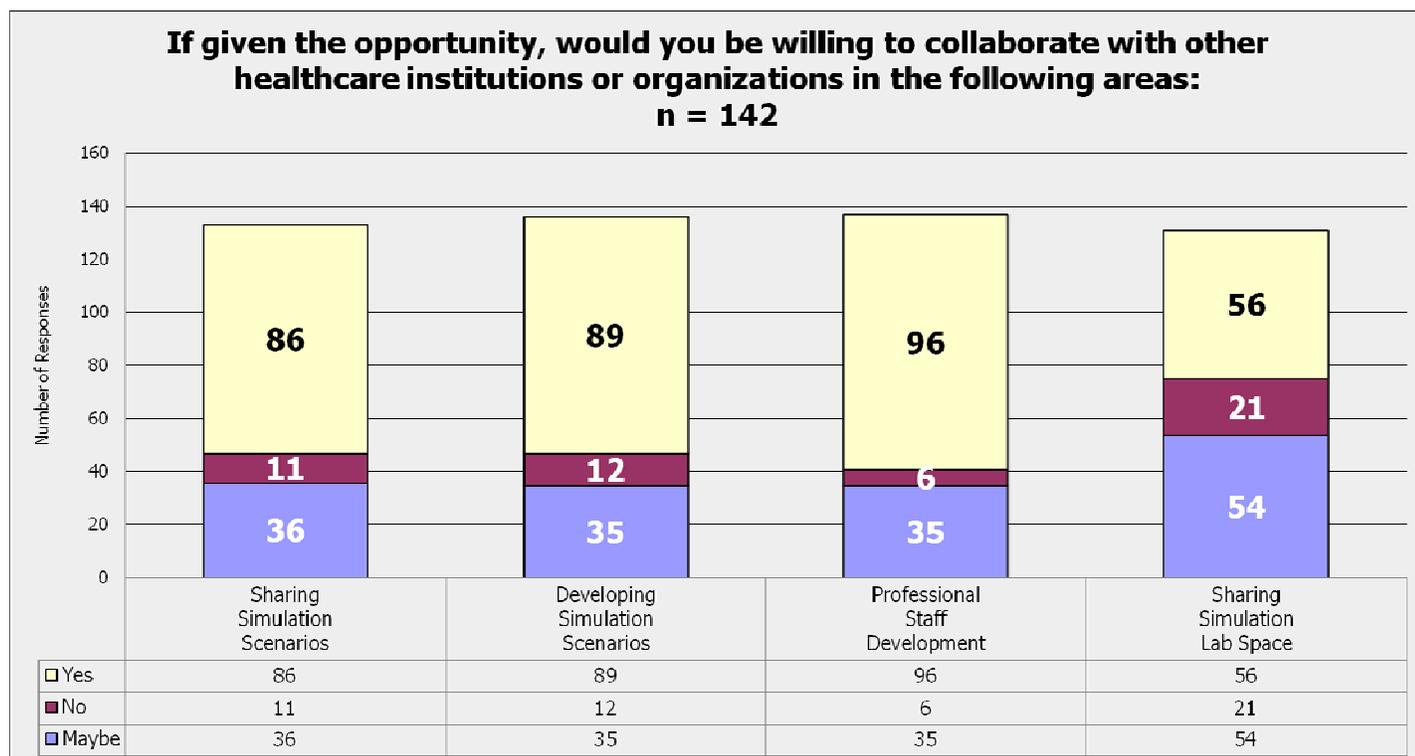
11%	Home Care	5%	Health Department
6%	Medical School	30%	Hospital
1%	MSN-RN Nursing Program	9%	BSN-RN Nursing Program
11%	ADN-RN Nursing Program	2%	LPN only Program
9%	4 year University/College	14%	2 year College
2%	Upper Division School		

Survey results indicate that nursing had the highest utilization rate of clinical simulation laboratories as compared to other health care disciplines. Only 40% these programs use the lab for interdisciplinary training (i.e. Rapid Response, trauma/ICU resuscitation, emergency room resuscitation, working in a team environment).

Forty-six percent of the institutions acknowledged having a clinical simulation lab. 66.2% have conducted high fidelity programs, defined as the degree of realism or accuracy of the system used and simulations by M.A. Seropian (2004).

What disciplines utilize your simulation lab? (Check all that apply.)		
n = 65		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
EMT	26.2%	17
Medical Assistant	10.8%	7
Medicine	24.6%	16
Nursing	96.9%	63
Occupational Therapy	4.6%	3
Physical Therapy	9.2%	6
Polysomnographic	1.5%	1
Technologist		
Radiologic Technologist	7.7%	5

Respiratory Therapy	21.5%	14
Other (please specify)		11



Conclusions

Results indicate that there is interest in developing a simulation consortium for expansion and coordination of healthcare simulation opportunities in Illinois with hospitals, health institutions, nursing, medical and allied health schools. Therefore, next steps should include identifying best practices and funding resources to further facilitate and promote an interdisciplinary and collaborative alliance for leveraging the expansion of clinical simulation opportunities within the State of Illinois.

This alliance would be for the development of and a resource for Illinois nursing and healthcare education.

Acknowledgements

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The Illinois Center for Nursing (ICN) was established in 2006 to advocate and ensure appropriate nursing resources necessary to meet the healthcare needs of the citizens of Illinois. ICN is working with industry professionals and educational institutions to ensure that Illinois has a nursing workforce necessary to meet the demands of a growing and aging population. For more information, visit the ICN website, www.nursing.illinois.gov.

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