

Improving mental health training through simulation

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We've funded the creation of a product to support simulation training for mental health professionals, giving them the skills to provide high quality care.

People learn most effectively when training is interactive, immersive and replicates real life. In healthcare this has traditionally been offered through clinical placements that are supervised and assessed by experienced teachers. It's a good idea to practice what to do when things go wrong, but how do we do this in a safe environment without increasing risk for patients? This is where simulation comes in.

In education, simulation replicates a real-life scenario, but in a safe and controlled way. Simulation has been used in medicine and surgery for years and now mental health practitioners are adopting simulation as a common teaching method.

Maudsley simulation

HEE has commissioned and supported the development of the first dedicated clinical simulation facility for mental health ? Maudsley Simulation.

Based at South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust (SLaM), Maudsley Simulation [6] offers a wide variety of courses both in-house and across the country. Maudsley is helping us enhance training for those working in perinatal mental health.

HEE also supports other clinical simulation centres around the country, which offer a variety of courses, including some focused on mental health:

- [The Montagu Simulation Centre \[7\]](#)
- [Bristol Medical Simulation Centre \[8\]](#)

Recognising and assessing medical problems in psychiatric settings

Developed by HEE in Yorkshire and the Humber, Recognising and assessing medical problems in psychiatric settings (RAMPPS) [9] supports parity of esteem. The course focuses on recognising and assessing medical problems in psychiatric settings. It equips mental healthcare staff with the skills needed to recognise that someone in their care is becoming poorly and to work as a team to take immediate action.

2018 BMJ Awards winners

Congratulations to Maudsley Simulation, which has been crowned Education Team of the Year at this years BMJ Awards [10].

The BMJ judges praised Maudsley Simulation's innovative approach to education, their focus on translating learning into clinical practice, and their work to build capacity to delivery mental health simulation training nationally.

Related Content

Simulation

A national strategy is being developed to ensure that we can continue to ensure equity of access to simulation education and training across England that provides value for money and delivers patient-centred and high-quality educational outcomes.

Read more [11]

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Links

[1] <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work>

[2] <https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/>

[3] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/>

[4] <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/news-blogs-events>

[5] <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/about>

[6] <http://www.slam.nhs.uk/about-us/education-and-development/maudsley-simulation>

[7] <http://www.montagusimulation.co.uk/>

[8] <http://www.bmsc.co.uk/>

[9] <https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/recognising-and-assessing-medical-problems-in-psychiatric-settings/>

[10] <https://thebmjaways.bmj.com/winners-2018/>

[11] <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/simulation>