Simulation has been used historically in military and aviation for war strategy and flight training. Simulation techniques were used in healthcare as early as 1911. A life-sized “Mrs. Chase doll” was the first known manikin for training nurses in basic patient care. Current research confirms simulation is an effective technique for increasing clinical confidence and skill acquisition by imitating a clinical risk-free environment. Current research shows that an increase in RN and CNA confidence leads to positive patient outcomes.

### Introduction

- Simulation has been used historically in military and aviation for war strategy and flight training.
- Simulation techniques were used in healthcare as early as 1911.
- A life-sized “Mrs. Chase doll” was the first known manikin for training nurses in basic patient care.
- Current research confirms simulation is an effective technique for increasing clinical confidence and skill acquisition by imitating a clinical risk-free environment.
- Current research shows that an increase in RN and CNA confidence leads to positive patient outcomes.

### Abstract

Simulation is increasingly being used as a teaching method throughout nursing, with positive effects on nursing clinical knowledge and performance. This project demonstrated how simulation in a supportive environment enhanced confidence and moderate improvement in proficiency in RNs and CNAs in one community hospital. The year-long simulation project involved participation of RNs and CNAs from medical-surgical and ICU. Simulation clinical content for RNs was sepsis resuscitation. Clinical content for CNAs was vital sign proficiency and fall prevention.

### Results

![Graph showing improvement in RN confidence and proficiency](Image)

### Discussion and Conclusions

- FY 17 data collected from simulation lab participants showed 94% of RNs surveyed and 100% of CNAs surveyed improved their confidence level pre to post simulation.
- RN perception of proficiency in identifying signs and symptoms of septic patients and in implementing appropriate clinical management improved less than expected.
- CNA perception of proficiency increased moderately in obtaining vital signs, in identifying alarm fatigue reduction strategies and in EMR documentation.
- LAH was able to demonstrate enhanced confidence and moderate improvement in proficiency in RNs and CNAs.
- A potential measurement barrier which will be corrected in FY18 will be to separate pre surveys and post surveys.

### Literature