

Training in Integrated Care

Highly commended

Chelsea and Westminster MOMS Training Team

Description of approach and achievements

Since 2009, at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital has introduced a Multidisciplinary Obstetrics and Midwifery Simulation (MOMS) course. This is the first full platform simulation course that has been introduced as part mandatory training for all trainees and a maternity team in the U.K. Confidential enquiries (CEMACH 2007) have estimated that almost a half of all maternal deaths could be prevented with better care. Enquires into poor perinatal outcomes have identified common errors in the management of patients: confusion in roles and responsibilities, lack of cross-monitoring, failure to prioritise and perform clinical tasks in a structured coordinated manner, poor communication, poor team working, poor evidence base and lack of organisational support. Our course has been designed by a dedicated MOMS team, this group includes: Mr Duffy lead Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, Michaela Anderson lead Education and Clinical Skills Midwife and importantly with input with the development and running of the courses from trainee Doctors, Mr Chakravarti ST7 Obstetrics, Dr Jane Currie ST3-4 O+G and Dr Iona Carson ST2-3 O+G. The course is split over two days. The first day is broken into lectures and open group discussions in the morning and small group practical stations in the afternoon. This day focuses like many other courses on core propositional knowledge for emergency maternity situations.

Traditionally the focus of training has been around the acquisition of knowledge and there has been little focus on how well this knowledge is practiced. On the second day of the MOMS course we try to re-orientate a student's view of knowledge from 'knowing that' to 'knowing how', as we believe it is essential that exploration is at the heart of our educational discourse and exploratory conversations provide an important means of working on understanding. Our conversations in medicine are a joint enterprise that is focussed on ultimately bringing health to patients and we are members of a defined community of medical practice. Our course helps to recognise the significance of collaboration within our maternity community and provides an environment in which each individual is valued. This is in keeping with the social constructivist Vygotsky's belief (Vygotsky, 1978) that individuals are helped by others around them to make sense of the world and that learning is a social and collaborative activity. These principles are used in developing our multidisciplinary team working in simulation. Our course is unique in providing emergency skill training across specialities and trainees and seniority grades; a total of over 300 in one year. The team includes Community and Hospital Midwives, Obstetricians, GP trainees and Anaesthetist at different stages of their careers. We are currently evaluating

the course, some of the data from which is submitted as our supporting evidence. There has been strong positive feedback, not only from learning perspective, but enjoyment also. The course has lead to not only a good reaction but to behaviour change and better team-working and situational awareness. Once our final evaluation is complete we hope that our model of multidisciplinary training will not only adopted locally but nationally also.

Department Team Members

Dr. Shane Duffy - Lead

Michaela Anderson - Clinical Skills Facilitator

Dr. Iona Carson - Obstetric and Gynaecology Specialist Trainee Representative ST1-3

Dr. Jane Currie - Education Fellow

Dr. Sujay Chakravarti - Obstetric and Gynaecology Specialist Trainee Representative ST4-7

For further information contact

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