



## Running the Communication Simulations

### Pre-Work:

1. If a simulation center is present and the residency has adequate resources:
  - a. Procure patient-actors either paid or volunteer.
  - b. Confirm actor preparation by providing the written script(s). Each scenario must include background information, enactment / script, and notes to the acting patient.
2. The training session should be staffed by a professional acting coach, actor as well as one of the faculty raters to allow for maximum acting preparation and understanding of the simulation.
3. Faculty with prior communication skills training are meant to be a facilitator, not a teacher/professor during the simulations.
4. A maximum of 6 trainees are involved at a time completing 6 scenarios each. There are two sets of scenarios available on the website in the event an institution would like to repeat simulations in a second session or prefer one set of scenarios over the other (scenario set two is more difficult).
5. If possible, videotape each interaction for each trainee (preferred but not required).
6. The Learning About Effective Communication Skills Module using the Communication Skills Learning Module PowerPoint should be completed by the trainees prior to participation in the simulations.

### Day of Simulation Instructions:

1. Allow trainees to review the PPT the week before the simulation activity.
2. On the day of simulation, trainee reads the scenario before entering the simulation room (2-3 minutes). Simulation scenario should run approx. 10 - 12 minutes.
3. A 2-minute warning is given to allow the trainee to complete the scenario interaction.
4. Immediately after, the trainee fills out self-evaluation and the actor must complete the trainee evaluation (10 minutes) using the Kalamazoo Communication Skills Assessment Tool.
5. The trainee completes the post-survey on communication simulation.

### Simulation Debrief:

1. Debrief session should be 1.5 - 2 hours.

1. At completion of all scenarios, faculty gathers teaching points via review of videos, if available, and trainee evaluations from actors. Faculty reviews each trainee's 6 simulation interactions and grades utilizing the KalRads tool.
2. For each scenario, discuss the following:
  - a. Discuss actor's evaluation and teaching points.
  - b. Emphasize strengths and areas for improvement.
  - c. Allow for trainee discussion.
2. Post-survey on communication simulation is given to the trainees.
3. Trainees are provided with all their evaluations from the acting patients, faculty evaluator(s) and their self-evaluations so they can see how they did and learn from the experience.