The Israel Center of Medical Simulation

“... MSR, the Israel Center for Medical Simulation is a world leader in simulation-based medical education. MSR aims to change the safety culture in healthcare with improved preparedness of health professionals to perform challenging clinical and humanistic duties, leading to a safer, more ethical, patient-centered medical environment.”

Prof. Amitai Ziv, MD, MHA founder and director of MSR, is a world renowned expert in simulation-based medical education.
MSR, the Israel Center for Medical Simulation at the Sheba Medical Center is one of the world’s foremost centers for simulation-based medical education. MSR strives towards improved standards and innovative approaches to healthcare training and education.

MSR is an international leader in the delivery of comprehensive multidisciplinary and multimodality simulation-based medical training. MSR’s educational approach emphasizes the message of patient safety by focusing its training on competencies and crucial safety aspects. These include teamwork, error reduction, transparent debriefing, as well as proactive and structured exposure to extreme and challenging clinical conditions.

National Mandatory Simulation-based Programs and Exams

MSR is expert in large scale, high volume programs and conducts multiple mandatory national courses such as the 4 day Interns Boot Camp and high stakes simulation-based exams for residents, nurses and paramedics, in collaboration with the National Institute for Testing and Evaluation and Israeli regulatory bodies such as the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Health Nursing Division, the Israeli Medical Association, Israel’s Association of Deans and Faculties of Medicine and Magen David Adom.

MSR trains and tests annually over 15,000 healthcare professionals from Israel and worldwide in a wide variety of clinical domains such as Anesthesia, Cardiology, Ob-Gyn, Trauma, Emergency Preparedness and more. MSR also focuses on communication skills through programs dedicated to training challenging tasks such as delivering difficult news, obtaining informed consent, improving the identification and treatment of child, women and elderly abuse, improving cultural competence and discussing End-of Life decisions with patients and family members. MSR is an accredited American Heart Association International Training Site.

Prof. Amitai Ziv – Founder and Director

MSR was founded in 2001 by Prof. Amitai Ziv, MD, MHA, a veteran combat pilot in the Israeli Air Force and a world renowned expert in the field of simulation-based medical education. Prof. Ziv, a pediatrician in his clinical background, is Deputy Director and Associate Dean of the Sheba Medical Center, responsible for Patient Safety, Risk Management and Medical Education. Prof. Ziv is a clinical Associate professor and chairman of the Department of Medical Education at the Tel-Aviv University, Sackler School of Medicine. He is also the recipient of national and international awards including the 2007 Charles Bronfman Award for Humanitarian Action and the 2007 Michener Honorary Diploma of Health Science Award for leadership and commitment to the Applied Health Sciences.

The MSR Team

MSR’s multidisciplinary team of over 40 staff members includes faculty from Anesthesia, General Surgery, Emergency Medicine, Critical Care, Obstetrics, and Pediatrics, Nurses from multiple clinical backgrounds, Paramedics and Medics, Simulator Specialists, Psychologists, Social Workers, Simulated Patient trainers, AV System Engineers, Educationalists, Psychometricians (Assessment specialists), Marketing and Administration.

MSR – a Global Leader

MSR has established itself as a national and global role model, and has gained national and international recognition as a vitally important component of Israel’s medical education network.
International Consulting and Collaboration

MSR has served as a role model for the establishment of simulation centers in leading medical institutions around the world including Mayo Clinic, Rochester - USA, McGill University, Montreal - Canada, Michener Institute for Applied Health Professionals, Toronto - Canada, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland - USA, Albert Einstein Medical Center, San Paolo - Brazil, and New York Presbyterian and Columbia University, New York - USA and others.

Faculty Development

Drawing on years of experience, MSR conducts Faculty Development Programs for healthcare professionals to help them develop expertise in the field of simulation-based education. These programs are offered both locally and internationally.

MSR on Wheels – a Mobile Unit

MSR, with the help of the Russell Berrie Foundation and the Helmsley Charitable Trust, has established a mobile training unit to provide faculty development and simulation-based training programs in-situ in hospitals, clinics and in the field.

MSR-Radiotherapy

In collaboration with Israel's Ministry of Health, the Israel School of Radiotherapy offers simulation-based radiotherapy training to complement the clinical and in-depth theoretical studies of both Radiography and Radiotherapy programs. This unique program integrates the know-how of operating the treatment planning system and linear accelerators with the improvement of important communication skills.

Methods developed and implemented by MSR are revolutionizing the manner in which physicians and allied health personnel are trained, with a renewed focus on patient safety and demonstrated competency through training with simulated patients in a controlled multidisciplinary “simulation center” environment. MSR has had an incalculable truly worldwide impact.

William F. Dunn, MD
Past Medical Director, Mayo Multidisciplinary Simulation Center Minnesota USA

The Israel Simulation Centre has in a very short time become an internationally recognized world leader in the art and science of medical simulation. It has brought sophistication and realism to simulation-based training and has made it an important tool in the education and training of all medical professionals in Israel.

Kevin Lachapelle, MD
Past Director, McGill Medical Simulation Centre Montreal, Canada
Facilities

MSR is located at the Sheba Medical Center, Tel Hashomer, Israel. Sheba is the largest medical facility in Israel, recognized internationally for its leadership in healthcare and medical research. Sheba employs close to 6,000 healthcare professionals who provide almost four million treatments and medical tests to more than one million patients a year. Its 150-acre campus on the outskirts of Tel Aviv uniquely combines a major Acute Care Hospital with a Rehabilitation Hospital.

MSR is a 2000 sqm facility designed as a virtual health environment. The center uses a wide spectrum of medical simulation technologies including simulated patients (role-playing actors who help learners improve their clinical and communications skills), simple procedural models and advanced virtual reality task trainers (for training of complex manual and technical skills), and cutting-edge, computer-driven, full-body mannequins that enhance the simulation of challenging and high-risk clinical conditions and support advanced clinical skills and team training. Sophisticated audiovisual equipment, proprietary debriefing software and one-way mirrors facilitate supervision and performance review and serve MSR’s broader efforts to provide systematic and constructive feedback to trainees.

Future Plans

As the field of medical simulation advances, MSR will strive to maintain its leadership edge by expanding its facilities and entering into newly developing medical simulation domains, promoting implementation of advanced simulation modalities and fostering effective training programs in order to continue to improve patient safety and quality of care.

Donations

MSR is a unit of the not-for profit Medical Research Infrastructure Development and Health Services Fund by Sheba Medical Center operating on a fee for service model. Although for the most part operationally balanced, MSR relies on the support of donors and research grants for capital improvements, upgrades and development.

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