

# Ten Years Of NOTSTOG: using immersive simulation for non-technical skills training in Obstetrics and Gynaecology

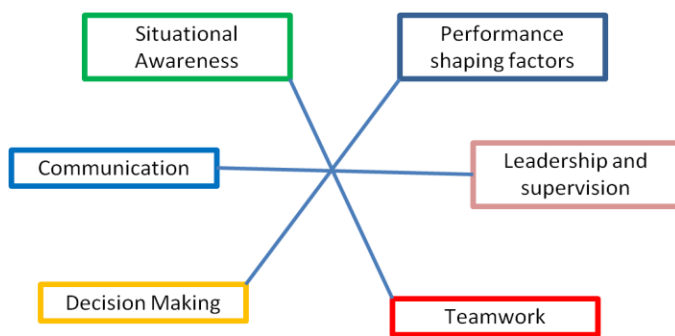
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## Background

- Effective teamwork is crucial to delivery of safe maternity care. Obstetric emergencies are fortunately relatively rare though outcomes of a poorly managed emergency situation can be life threatening or life changing for both mother and baby.
- Non-technical skills (NTS) of clear communication, situational awareness, decision making and leadership alongside technical knowledge and skills are critical.
- Surgical training, led by RCS(Ed), has encompassed formal NTS training for two decades; in O&G, we have developed a bespoke course using immersive simulation to apply these principles to obstetric care.



## Approach

- Immersive simulation training
- One day course, runs twice per year since 2014
- Based in Scottish Centre for Simulation and Clinical Human Factors, Larbert
- 5-6 senior O&G trainees (ST5+)
- Expert simulation technicians and subject matter faculty
- Scenarios based around:
  - Eclampsia
  - Massive obstetric haemorrhage
  - Sepsis
  - Hypoglycaemia
  - Cardiac arrest
  - Placental abruption
- Uses the SMOTS system to provide immersive experience with team observation followed by structured debrief

## Discussion

- Clinical training in O&G, like many surgical specialties, has traditionally focussed on acquisition of necessary technical skills.
- With improved understanding of the role of NTS in patient safety, this course provides a safe space for trainees to develop NTS in as close to 'real-life' as possible.
- Specific learning outcomes are generated by participants, tailored to their needs, whether these are the challenges of 'step-up' to registrar level, or those more relevant for a new consultant.
- Trainees have consistently given positive feedback (word cloud above) - common themes include the safe space to manage complex situations and interactions.
- This training is now available for all trainees in O&G in Scotland; non-technical skills are formally recognised in the RCOG curriculum and this course provides a means to demonstrate training.