

WakeMed and Wake Tech College Receive Grant to Incorporate Simulation into Nursing Curriculum

WakeMed Health & Hospitals in partnership with Wake Technical Community College has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from the North Carolina Area Health Education Centers (NC AHEC) to expand clinical capacity through the use of human patient simulation.

Nov. 19, 2008 - [PRLog](#) -- WakeMed Health & Hospitals in partnership with Wake Technical Community College has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from the North Carolina Area Health Education Centers (NC AHEC) to expand clinical capacity through the use of human patient simulation.

The grant is being used to provide 56 Wake Tech nursing students with a minimum of 10 hours of simulation training. This grant will also enable nursing faculty and WakeMed Simulation Center staff to develop an implementation strategy for all 300 Wake Tech nursing students using Human Patient Simulators in the future. The simulation experience will be used in combination with traditional clinical experiences.

“Human patient simulation is becoming a standard component of many clinical training curricula,” commented Amar Patel, manager, WakeMed Simulation Center. “Since the simulators respond to treatment like a real patient, students have the benefit of practicing skills and responses in a controlled environment. This grant will allow us to extend access to the simulators to a new population of students.”

“We’re extremely fortunate to have WakeMed as a partner, as this AHEC grant demonstrates,” says Kathy Weeks, head of the Nursing Department at Wake Tech, “This grant funding makes it possible for us to provide more of our future nurses with the latest in simulation training, preparing them to meet the constantly-rising demand for qualified health professionals.”

Use of the patient simulators will enable Wake Tech faculty to create clinical situations that students may never experience during their training, thereby increasing the effectiveness of the clinical experience. In addition to the grant, WakeMed is committing more than \$100,000 in resources and training to implement the simulation training project.

In 2005, WakeMed established the WakeMed Simulation Center. The primary focus of the Simulation Center is competency evaluation, research, continuing education, skills practice, team building, and enhancement of communication skills. The WakeMed Simulation Center currently has 22 human patient simulators, including two premature infants, four newborn babies, three pediatric patients, a pregnant woman, two trauma victims and ten adult simulators. To date the WSC has trained over 3,691 students in over 697 simulation events representing more than 23,898 participant hours.

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About WakeMed Health & Hospitals

WakeMed Health & Hospitals, one of the first hospital systems in the country, is a private, not-for-profit health care organization based in Raleigh, N.C. The 870-bed system comprises a network of health care facilities throughout Wake and Johnston Counties, including: a Level I Trauma Center and tertiary referral hospital and rehabilitation hospital in Raleigh, a community hospital in Cary, two comprehensive outpatient centers and freestanding emergency departments in North Raleigh and Apex, seven outpatient rehabilitation sites, two skilled-nursing and outpatient facilities, a 100+-physician multispecialty practice, and home health services. Centers of excellence include cardiac and vascular care, women’s and children’s services,

physical rehab, emergency and trauma, orthopaedics, neurosciences, home care and numerous wellness and community outreach programs. For more information, visit www.wakemed.org.

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