There is a growing awareness that health care is behind other high risk operations in its attention to ensuring basic safety and that there is a need to grasp the scale of the problem (1,2).

Use of patient simulation is considered an important part of the solution as many scenarios can be presented including uncommon but critical situations where a rapid response is needed. Errors can be allowed to occur and reach their conclusion without any risk to a patient. Team member interactions and leadership can also be explored and developed.

Two manikin-based simulators from Laerdal, SimMan® and AirMan®, represent a new generation of affordable and portable solutions to meet these needs.

References:
1) BMJ Volume 320, 18 March 2000
2) To Err Is Human: Building a Safer Health System/Linda T. Kohn, Janet M. Corrigan, and Molla S. Donaldson, Editors, © 2000 by the National Academy of Sciences.

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