

IMSH 2018
Simulation: Making the Impossible Possible

You do it every day. You tackle difficult - sometimes seemingly impossible – circumstances as you work to improve patient care through simulation-based healthcare education. Your efforts save lives; your teaching helps others save more lives.

You transform settings to look and feel like real-life environments with engaging scenarios that impart important lessons. You all too often have fewer staff than you need, less than optimal resources, challenging timelines, and multiple demands for your expertise. When budgets are impossibly tight, you find a way to make unaffordable solutions affordable, often operating your simulation program on a shoestring because you know that real lives are on the line.

You advocate – each day – for the use of simulation, because you know it is one of the most powerful learning tools we have in the quest to improve healthcare. You manage – day in and day out – to turn unintended gaps in practice into knowledge, using effective and engaging learning opportunities created through healthcare simulation.

Simulation is your mission. You are the champions of simulation. You make the Impossible, Possible!

Tell us how you do it! The theme for the **18th International Meeting on Simulation in Healthcare** (IMSH 2018) is “Making the Impossible – Possible.” We invite you to share your innovations in education, business, technology, gaming, operations, research, and faculty development as we work to build a conference that showcases the best techniques and strategies to optimize simulation-based education in healthcare.

Content Options

The IMSH 2018 Planning Committee is accepting content in two major categories:

[Course Proposals](#)

Immersive Course – 4 hours

Interactive delivery format, held at simulation centers in the Greater Los Angeles area on Saturday or Sunday, January 13 – 14, 2018, prior to the start of the IMSH General Session.

Panel Presentation – 60 minutes

Two to three presenters/panel members, theatre-style seating. Held during the IMSH General Session on Monday – Wednesday, January 15 – 17, 2018.

Panel Presentation – 90 minutes

Four or more presenters/panel members, theatre-style seating. Held during the IMSH General Session on Monday – Wednesday, January 15 – 17, 2018.

Podium Presentation – 60 minutes

One or two presenters, theatre-style seating. Held during the IMSH General Session on Monday – Wednesday, January 15 – 17, 2018.

Preconference Course – 4 hours

Interactive delivery format, room set designed for small group interaction. Held at the Los Angeles Convention Center on Saturday or Sunday, January 13 – 14, 2018, prior to the start of the IMSH General Session

Workshop – 90 minutes

Interactive delivery format, room set designed for small group interaction. Held at the Los Angeles Convention Center on Saturday or Sunday, January 13 – 14, 2018, prior to the start of the IMSH General Session.

[Abstract - Research Study/Innovation Project](#)

1. **NEW! Abstract – Research Study Development & Presentation Program.** Abstracts describing studies in the development phase or in early stages of implementation for which the author wishes to receive focused review and feedback.
2. **Abstract - Research Study.** Abstracts representing completed or in-progress studies in which simulation is either the subject of the research or is used as a research tool. A specific research question and hypothesis are required. Established research methodologies and theoretical frameworks should inform the intervention, study design, and assessment process. **Late-breaking Study Results.** Submitters of abstracts for studies “in-progress” are required to submit final data no later than September 1, 2017. If data is incomplete as of September 1, 2017, the abstract may be re-categorized to the **Research Study Development & Presentation Program.**
3. **Abstracts - Innovation Projects.** Abstracts describing new or innovative programming or technology. These projects may include some type of evaluative process, but it is not a requirement. Includes entries to the 4th Spectrum of Ideas and 8th Serious Games/Virtual Environments Showcase.

Content Tracks

We are seeking submissions in 12 major tracks. NOTE: the same content tracks are being used for both Course Proposals and Abstracts - Research Study/Innovation Projects.

The IMSH 2018 Content Tracks are:

1. NEW! Technology/Innovations in Simulation

Share the cutting-edge innovations in technology that will shape the future delivery and effectiveness of healthcare simulation. What simulation tools will we use in the future? How do we successfully reimagine seemingly impossible challenges and limitations in today's technology for tomorrow's learner? We'd like to create a glimpse into the future of healthcare simulation, showcasing new tools and delivery formats that will make the delivery of education through healthcare simulation more realistic, effective and accessible.

Topics include, but are not limited to: augmented reality; virtual reality; serious games; new developments in assessment technologies (such as eye-tracking, motion tracking, force sensing, EEG, ECG, brain imaging); new manikins and task trainers; creation of low-cost task trainers; innovations in moulage; rapid-accurate prototyping (e.g. 3-D printing); technology to enhance standardized patient programs; and many more!

2. Administration

A particular interest for us this year is Return on Investment (ROI) - Justifying the need for, and demonstrating effectiveness of simulation in healthcare is crucial to obtain institutional leadership buy in for sustaining existing programs and developing new programs. Tell us how you demonstrate ROI in healthcare simulation, and offer content that will help your colleagues better advocate for simulation around the globe. Additional topics in this category include all facets of simulation center management and administration: organization and governance; human resource management; financial and management; scheduling; continuous quality improvement; security and confidentiality maintenance; policy and procedure framework; and creating and maintaining a safe learning environment.

3. Assessment of Learners

These entries demonstrate the creation, validation and, application of assessment instruments across a variety of domains, including behavioral skills, psychomotor skills, individual, and team behaviors. We are also looking for content that outlines robust assessment metrics in simulation-based training. NOTE: Content describing NEW technologies related to learner assessment should be submitted in the **Technology/Innovations in Simulation** track.

4. **Course Exemplars**

Share your examples of specific scenarios, courses and curricula here. Of specific interest are exemplars of curricula that address difficult and challenging training problems. Course exemplars may include content specific to a particular learner discipline. NOTE: Content describing NEW technologies and innovations related to specific course delivery options should be submitted in the **Technology/Innovations in Simulation** track.

5. **Debriefing**

Entries that showcase various debriefing strategies are welcome here. Of particular interest are submissions which address particularly challenging and difficult debriefing situations.

6. **Evaluation of Programs**

Content should provide insights and perspectives on the analysis of data and utilization of strategies and techniques to evaluate a simulation program's overall effectiveness in meeting programmatic objectives.

7. **Faculty Development**

Train your sim faculty! Content in this category is targeted to the faculty who teach and train using simulation-based education. Showcase recruitment, professional development, and evaluation strategies **used to train simulation faculty**. Content that covers development of "train the trainer" curricula and courses should be included here. Also accepted into this category are proposals that highlight and demonstrate the application of learning theories specific to simulation-based training. NOTE: Specific examples of the faculty development courses you use or have developed should be placed in the Course Exemplars track.

8. **Interprofessional Education (IPE)**

The IPE category includes entries that focus on interprofessional team training, validating and verifying team performance evaluation and team performance metrics, designing scenarios for interprofessional learners, and overcoming barriers to building an interprofessional simulation program. NOTE: Specific examples of Interprofessional Education courses you use or have developed should be placed in the Course Exemplars track.

9. **Leadership**

The development of leadership skills within healthcare simulation is not only a SSH priority, but also a mandate for simulation stakeholders if we are to gain recognition and move the agenda of simulation forward in today's challenging healthcare environment. Share your expertise in leadership as we continue developing this important content area.

10. Patient Outcomes, Quality & Safety

Content in this category highlights best practices and evidence-based strategies that have a documented impact on improved provider competency, patient safety, patient outcomes and overall healthcare quality. The positive impact simulation has on patient care is emerging, and evidence of improved outcomes on patient safety is the next goal. Share interventions that enhance patient safety.

11. Research Methods

Entries in this category are designed to enable both early and advanced researchers to better design, implement and analyze simulation-based research initiatives. This category includes all components of conducting research in simulation, including study design considerations; identifying a conceptual framework; strategies for effective writing and presentation of research findings; funding strategies; research methodologies; data analysis; and validity of findings. Specific research studies and findings should be submitted to the **Abstract - Research Study/Innovation Project** content section.

12. Technical Operations (Tech Ops)

Topics included in Tech Ops cover simulation center technical operational considerations including scenario programming; equipment repair and maintenance; facility maintenance; course preparation; use of technology; novel moulage and improvisation techniques; and professional development strategies for the operations specialist. NOTE: New inventions, innovations and discoveries in technical operations should be submitted in the Technology/Innovations in Simulation track.

Special Interest Categories

In addition to the Content Track, submitters will be asked to designate a special interest category for each entry. Categories include:

- Anesthesia
- Critical Care
- Dental
- Directors of Simulation Centers
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
- Emergency Medicine
- Hospital-based Simulation
- Internal Medicine
- Low Cost, Low Resource Simulation
- Modeling & Simulation
- Medical Education
- Non-physician Providers
- Nursing
- Obstetrics & Gynecology
- Pediatrics
- Perioperative Medicine
- Pharmacy
- Physician Assistant
- Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
- Serious Games & Virtual Environments
- Standardized Patients
- Super-sized Simulation Programs
- Surgery
- Undergraduate Education
- Veterinary Medicine
- Other (not listed above)