“ECMO IN A BAG”: Successful Adaptation and Implementation of a Novel Conference Idea

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The "ECMO in a Bag" concept was presented by The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto in May 2018 at the International Pediatric Simulation Society Workshop. This novel, low fidelity concept was adapted into a dynamic teaching tool to meet both novice and advanced learners’ needs at Children’s Mercy Kansas City, MO; ELSO Center of Excellence - Platinum.

**INTRODUCTION**

- The initial version of "ECMO in a Bag" was established with laminated equipment photographs, labels, and nonsterile tubing, with the intent of full assembly by the learners.
- The strategy was modified for introductory learners into matching the equipment names to an already assembled ECMO pump.
- The advanced ECMO learners were divided into two teams to compete against each other to correctly "assemble" an ECMO pump.
- All participants completed post surveys after each educational experience.

**METHODS**

- The original "ECMO in a Bag" concept was modified into an introductory and advanced version.
- 100% of novice learners surveyed in introductory ECMO classes stated the "ECMO in a Bag" was effective and engaging.
- 100% of transitional learners in the Advanced ECMO course scored the hands-on learning as beneficial.

**RESULTS**

**CONCLUSIONS**

The evolution of the experiential concept of "ECMO in a Bag" has been well received and modified for two different levels of ECMO learners in our hospital. "ECMO in a Bag" is proving to be a cost effective, portable, and dynamic learning tool that can be easily adapted to fit a learner’s educational needs.