

INTRODUCTION

Simulation based training, education and assessment is becoming commonplace in healthcare. Large, dedicated simulation centers are emerging at a rapid rate. Numerous previous studies indicate high rates of satisfaction as evaluated by participants when the training is conducted in these high tech environments that provide varying levels of environmental immersion.

There are various geographical considerations, as well as operational decisions that create barriers to the conducting of courses in dedicated large centers.

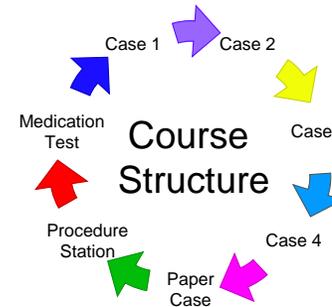
METHODS

We compare various parameters of trainee's perceptions of simulation based programs that were conducted in off-site locations to that of a large university based simulation center.

The significance of the differences was determined by finding the median response along with the interquartile range and then calculating a p-value by using the Wilcoxon rank-sum test for each survey item.

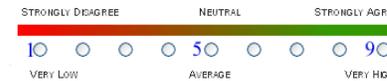
METHODS

- Courses conducted in 2004 and 2005
 - Onsite at University Center (WISER)
 - Off-site facilities
 - Hotels
 - Helicopter Bases
 - Fire Department
- Education & Competency Assessment
- 4 Clinical Scenarios
 - 2 Airway
 - 2 Medical
- On-Line Quality Assurance Survey Data

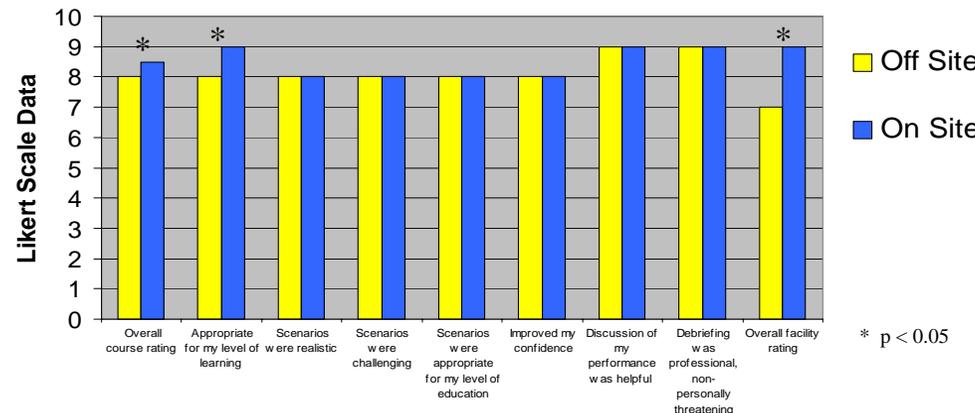


RESULTS

- 361 Respondents
- 281(78%) On-site at WISER
- 80 (22%) Off-site



Comparison of Off Site vs. On Site Trainee Perceptions



■ Off Site
■ On Site

* p < 0.05

CONCLUSIONS

The ability to conduct successful simulation center based programs in off-site locations is possible without significantly affecting trainee's perceptions, expectations or opinions about simulation training programs.



Consideration must be given to operational issues, costs and complexities inherent in the program. We demonstrate that the trainees' perception of the course can be maintained with a careful reproduction of the program if the operational need exists to conduct simulation based education in a make-shift training environment.