

Simulated Patients - Job Description

PRIMARY PURPOSE

The program in Human Simulation provides a safe, nonthreatening environment to teach, enhance, and assess the knowledge, skills, and behaviors of health science students using standardized patients. A standardized patient is an individual trained to portray a patient, family member, health care team member etc. They are utilized for the purpose of training and/or assessing healthcare professionals (medical, nursing, dental, and pharmacy students, medical residents etc.) related to interviewing, physical examination, communication, interpersonal and interprofessional skills. The use of standardized patients allows the student to apply newly acquired attitude, skills and knowledge at the bedside in an environment that does not put an actual patient at risk. These educational encounters provide critical learning experiences for health science students.

NATURE OF WORK

Reporting to the Manager of the Clinical Learning Resource Center and under the general supervision of the Standardized Patient Trainer and faculty, in a role play context, the standardized patient will present specific behavioral and/or disease symptoms while interacting with health science (medicine, nursing, physical therapy, dental, pharmacy, etc.) students during simulated patient encounters in a simulated medical environment. Scripted scenarios will be provided to the Standardized Patients for each event. The Standardized Patient will be trained and coached to accurately and consistently recreate a patient's history, personality, physical findings, and emotional structure and response pattern in the scenario. Standardized Patients will aid in the teaching and assessment of history taking/ interview, physical examination, communication skills, patient management, physical exam etiquette, interpersonal and interprofessional skills. During the teaching or assessment activities the Standardized Patient should expect the learner to interview, counsel, and/or physically examine them. Work can be physically and emotional demanding. This position is a casual, as needed basis; Monday through Friday; daytime hours; occasional opportunities to work evenings and weekends.

TYPICAL DUTIES

Work in a professional manner when interacting with learners, faculty, supervisors, and peers; participate in training sessions to learn the scenarios; memorize large complex scripts, simulate all aspects of the scenario in a standardized, accurate and consistent manner; be prompt and reliable for scheduled activity; provide feedback to learners and faculty as trained and appropriate; accept ongoing feedback from Standardized Patient Trainer and incorporate into case simulation; work collaboratively with the educational team; maintain confidentiality of records, activities, and all information; activities maybe audio or videotaped during simulation; be able to assess own wellbeing after activities and seek assistance as needed.

QUALIFICATIONS

Education

Completion of grade 12 for adult events; Child events: age appropriate

Experience

Experience in role playing, health related field desirable.

Skills

Excellent verbal skills; ability to memorize large amounts of complex information related to scenario specifics; ability to accurately, convincingly, and consistently interpret and present symptoms and/or information as cued by students in a simulated environment; ability, when requested, to provide consistent, objective and focused feedback and evaluation to students in a simulated and/or testing environment; able to maintain confidentiality of records and information; experience of high comfort level in front of camera is an asset; must be able to negotiate personal boundaries and request assistance if needed; ability to work with others in a respectful manner; reliable and punctual.