



# VITAL ANAESTHESIA SIMULATION TRAINING



## **VAST Course report – Perth Western Australia**

October 19-20 2023

**Course Convenors: Jade Pike, Joice Zachariah, Nicole Ghedina**

## Executive summary

*Situation*-VAST FC for 18 Participants to develop simulation faculty for SJOGHC Midland and Murdoch Hospitals supported by SJOG Midland hospital's PGME unit and Learning and Development teams

*Background*- VAST FC has been delivered at SJOG Midland in 2022 and 2023 as a strategy for developing trained simulation educators who support peer education in JMO, SMO and nursing educator roles. The VAST FC was successfully delivered to a group of clinicians from diverse clinical backgrounds. Participants were drawn from nursing and medical backgrounds with varied experience and training and education. Participants came from a range of clinical areas including emergency, junior medical officers in clinical rotations, ICU, Perioperative, Anaesthetics and academia.

*Assessment*-VAST FC provides a high yield 2-day training experience for participants from high resource settings and can be adapted to meet the learning needs of clinician educators from clinical areas other than anaesthetics and perioperative.

*Recommendation*- Consideration may be given to developing simulations for the FC that meet the needs of generalist clinicians working outside of the operating theatre space to increase the generalisability of the VAST FC.

## Contents

Course background	3
Faculty and attendees	3
Venue and equipment	4
Summary of evaluations	4
Challenges and lessons learnt	5
Post course follow-up	6
Future directions	6
Appendix I – evaluations	7
Appendix II – course photos	11

## Course background

SJOG Midland Public and Private Hospitals in Perth Western Australia has committed to simulation based education (SBE) by investing in a simulation team made up of a simulation consultant (0.2 FTE) and simulation clinical educators (0.8 FTE). This team works to deliver simulation based education to hospital caregivers with programs specifically targeting nursing (SIMMER), junior medical officer (MAPP) and maternity and perioperative (MOMS). These programs are supported by trained peer simulation educators. In 2022 VAST FC was held at Midland and offered training to caregivers interested in engaging with SBE. In 2023 a further VAST FC was held to continue to grow the pool of clinicians with simulation education skills who can engage as faculty in delivering SBE at SJOG Midland and Murdoch Hospitals.

The VAST FC program was chosen because of its high value to participants through access to online course pre learning, and a structured 2 day program that builds skills across scenario design, simulations facilitation and debriefing. The focus of the VAST FC was felt to meet the learning needs of clinician educators with varying degrees of educational and simulation facilitation experience.

## Faculty and attendees

Faculty Member	Background
Jade Pike	Simulation and Perioperative CE SJOG Midland
Joice Zachariah	Simulation CE SJOG Midland
Nicole Ghedina	Acting Simulation Consultant, Emergency Physician, SJOG Midland
Mandeep Cahal	Simulation Registrar/ Senior Registrar Emergency SJOG Midland
Kym Moiler	Simulation Lead ED, Emergency Physician, SJOG Midland
Julie Chave	Midwifery CE, SJOG Midland
Codey Holker	Midwifery CE, SJOG Midland
Owain Chandler	JMO, SJOG Midland
Chris Kennedy	Anaesthetist, SJOG Midland

Participant Name		Background
Corrine	Poletti	Midwifery CE SJOG Midland
Dimple	Alexander	AHCNS, SJOG Midland
Chad	Abbot	Anaesthetic trainee, SJOG Midland
Ellie	Massoudi	ED Registrar, SJOG Midland
Callum	Burns	Intern, SJOG Midland
Roshni	Sriranjan	Intern, SJOG Midland
Yiyun( Christine)	Tang	RMO, SJOG Midland
Dennis	Nixon	Intern, SJOG Midland
Wei	Ling	ICU Reg, SJOG Midland
Charis	Burgess	CE Emergency, SJOG Midland
Manisha	Desai	Anaes consultant. SJOG Midland
Anum	Saad	Medical Registrar, SJOG Midland
Tais	Pacheco Roloff	CE SJOG Midland
Sonya	Jones	L&D manager/ Research
Fayanne	Oelofse	CE ED , SJOG Murdoch
Lowell	Aguilar	CE Theatre, SJOG Murdoch
Mary	Williams	L&D manager Cardio/ Thoracic/resp, SJOG Murdoch
Jo	Maloney	CE ICU/CCU, SJOG Murdoch

## Venue and equipment

The course was held at SJOG Murdoch MURTECH facility. The facility offered 2 separate simulation spaces, one 4 bed space and one 2 bed space both with beds, wall gasses and simulation equipment and adult mannequins. ALSi x2 were available at MURTECH and some additional units were brought from Midland.

A meeting room space was used for the lectures and group session and had wall mounted AV facilities that were easy to operate. 2 smaller rooms were used for debriefing spaces. There was a spacious foyer area that linked with a grassed outdoor area that was used for breaks and participants and faculty enjoyed the opportunity to spend time outdoors during the rest breaks. There were clean and easy to access toilet facilities.

The faculty were able to access the facility to afternoon prior to the course for set up by prior arrangement with L&D at Murdoch and some swipe cards were made available for us to use to access the facility over the 2 days of the course.

Printing of manuals was done by L&D at Midland. The laminates and posters from the VAST box were displayed on the walls during the course.

### **Summary of evaluations**

Feedback was received from 17 participants on day 1 and 18 on day 2

100% of participants agreed (40%) or strongly agreed (60%) that the training was engaging and relevant. 100% of participants agreed (40%) or strongly agreed (60%) that they believe that they will use the skills learnt on the course.

Themes in the feedback included participants feeling safe to experiment and try new skills, high levels on enjoyment and engagement with the process of scenario design and delivery. Time restrictions on the course were reflected as a frustration, and some participants felt that the lecture sessions seemed too long and commented that they would have preferred more preparation and debriefing time.

### **Challenges and lessons learnt**

The need to join slack and access an online learning space challenged some of the faculty who were new to VAST. This was well supported by Jess Howe from VAST with many thanks.

Venue selection- initially the course was planned to run at Curtin Uni Midland campus but difficulties with staff turnover and university policies blocking hospital bookings until late in the year made this less feasible. MURTECH facilities were excellent for course delivery, and the travel time did not seem to be a great barrier to participation.

Having a timetable written up on the board in the main room for reference helped the course run to time and also held with adaptations and flexibility as needed.

The VAST focus on a lead participant was challenging for some scenarios set in diverse clinical settings where a broader multidisciplinary team may work together to deliver patient care.

### **Post-course follow-up**

Midland Hospital Junior Doctor Participants were invited to join a Whats App group of peer facilitators. They were invited to join the faculty for future MAPP simulation events at SJOG Midland Hospital. Senior doctor and nursing participants have been offered opportunities to be involved with simulation training in their clinical areas through the SIMMER and MOMs programs and through in situ SBE.

### **Future directions**

It is planned at this stage to offer another 2 day VAST FC in 2024 for SJOG Midland staff.



- Timing of the next course: We have provisionally planned for a single course in Sept 2024. This allows time for new JMOs to gain clinical and workplace experience before selecting to join the clinical simulation program. It allows time for caregivers who may use simulation skills to be identified and approached earlier in the year.
- Venue for the next course: SJOG Murdoch MURTECH facilities functioned well for course delivery and were able to be booked “in kind” decreasing the costs of training delivery. Curtin University Midland campus offers excellent facilities but the booking system would need to improve for course delivery there to be the preferred option.
- Costing: Support from PGME allowed for VAST fees, catering for the course and L and D supported the provision of printing and consumables. It would be great if PGME remain willing to fund future trainings but an alternate of trainees self funding or seeking sponsorship would be an alternate.
- Participants: The expansion to 18 participants was challenging and we would recommend restricting the next course to 16 participants

## Appendix I – Participant evaluations

### **VAST Facilitator Course Feedback**

SJOG Murdoch, Perth Australia Oct 19/20

What did you like:

- Splitting the various steps of facilitation into stages and practising them
- Clear explanation
- Simulation was made easy to understand x 2
- Good focus on skill development
- Friendly and supportive facilitators x 2
- How to highlight protocols like SBAR and AMPLE
- Debriefing practice x 5
- Fun learning atmosphere x 3
- Good venue
- Involved everybody
- Course content
- Planning and teaching
- Appreciating the difference between conventional teaching and debriefing
- The importance of non-technical skills was made evident
- Enjoyed the conversation on colleagues who need support
- Realistic scenarios with minimal equipment

Suggestions for improvement:

- Make debriefing easier to understand
- Consider a skills session post lunch to keep us more alert
- More time to practice
- It would be easier to have done the facilitator course after having done the VAST Course first
- Continue to emphasise non-technical skills – there is very little NTS taught in India in a systematic way x 2
- Pocket cards to be made available for quick reference when debriefing

- Introduce participants on day 1 to the way of debriefing and facilitating to reach objectives of their own

What can you take away from the course:

- Depersonalise debriefing
- Observe non-technical skills and discuss them
- Keep clinical teaching to a minimum
- Non-threatening way of communicating
- Stay focused on the learning objectives
- Organised and streamlined way of doing things
- Self-reflective learning is the best way of learning and the facilitator needs to tailor it to the needs of the group
- Do your homework well before
- Importance of meticulous presentations
- Tips and tricks for debriefing
- Importance of debriefing x 2
- Importance of summarising and communication
- Focus on developing non-technical skills x 2
- Distil information during debriefing
- How to frame questions in the analysis phase
- How to facilitate without getting into the conversation
- Time management
- Participant driven take home messages x 2

Other comments:

- We had a fun learning time and did not feel stressed to learn new things x 2
- Its good to be part of facilitator training
- Keep up the good work
- This team is fantastic, just perfect
- The course could be a little longer – maybe 3 days to have more practice
- A little bit tiring – maybe because I had a lot of background things running in my mind other than VAST

## Appendix I – Course Photos













