Research Guidelines in the Clinical Simulation Center (CSC) V.1 (5.29.20)

In efforts to improve trainees, staff, and patients’ safety surrounding research efforts in the Clinical Simulation Center, simulation-based research may be impacted. CSC will accommodate ongoing research efforts and promote innovation while taking into consideration safety requirements.

Priorities will be followed in this order:

1. Training activities take priority over “research-only” activities.
2. Research that requires equipment, simulators, or other CSC resources will only be scheduled after training events have been prioritized and scheduled.
3. Research that is integrated within training activities will take priority over “research-only” activities.
4. Existing/ongoing research will take priority over new research, unless research is directly related to Covid-19 pandemic.
5. Externally funded research will take priority over internally-funded and non-funded research.
6. In-situ/on-unit research that requires CSC resources (simulators, equipment, and/or staffing) will be considered, but will follow same priority ordering as listed above.

To ensure safety of trainees, staff, and patients, research must follow these guidelines:

1. All research protocols must be reviewed and approved by Dr. Rooney and Andrea Mitz no fewer than 21 days prior to event. IRB proposals (drafts, submitted, or approved) are acceptable.
2. Every research protocol must include a safety plan that includes specifics on maximum number of participants/facilitators/and precise CSC room (Room numbers and acceptable person counts are available from Niles Mayrand and/or Andrea Mitz).
3. Should research include activities where participants cannot maintain minimum 6-foot distance, protocol should include a) explanation of reasoning for non-compliance, and b) action used to minimize risk to participants (e.g. particular PPE).
4. If research includes observations, assessment ratings, and/or surveys:
   a. Observation and/or rating of behaviors within the CSC sites will only be allowed if all overarching guidelines (e.g. social distancing and safe person/space ratio requirements) are followed.
   b. Recorded notes and assessment-judgements will be allowed with paper on a disinfected clipboard only if those documented notes are to be used as educational aid (e.g. feedback during debriefing). Following sessions, used papers must be disposed of with discarded PPE in designated receptacle, and clipboard returned to CSC in bin outside of room, marked “Used”.
   c. All other recorded notes, assessment-judgements, and or survey responses will be allowed only via hands-free options (QR code to google form, Qualtrics, Canvas, or alternative mechanism) on observer’s, or trainees’ personal device (phone).
   d. Hands-free components (e.g. QR-code, spreadsheets, surveys) must be submitted and approved by Dr. Rooney and Andrea Mitz no fewer than 7 days prior to event.

- Research that does not adhere to these guidelines will be postponed until risk is minimized.
- Guidelines and requirements are subject to change based on institutional or state government mandate in response to local or regional conditions.
- Dr. Rooney reserves right to refuse or postpone research activity.
- For questions or comments, please contact Deborah Rooney, PhD, CSC Director of Education and Research. Email: dmroney@med.umich.edu, tele: 734-764-0102.