

Feb 9, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 2429-review.doc).

Title: Title: Simulation Training in Contemporary **Obstetrics** Education

Authors abbreviation names: Doehrman PD; Erickson L; Galfione K; Geire B, Kanav K; Ashby A

Name of journal: World Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 7438

Columns: Observational study

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

- (1) The rarity of forceps use has indeed created a real problem in educating residents on this important skill. Therefore any means which may enhance residents' skill is important. The authors declare that "Analysis of pretest scores showed a clear association between forceps skills and clinical experience." Was there such a similar association after the training? How was the association performed? How was the clinical experience assessed?

After training there was no such association between skills and clinical experience. We suspect that simulation training overcame differences in experience, and produce equally proficiently trained residents. Clinical experience was assessed based on year of training. We were able to deduce based on the resident case logs for first, second, third, and fourth year residents that on average clinically experience was increased as training year increased. The association between clinical experience and skills was analyzed by comparing performance scores during the pretest and year of training.

- (2) Well done! This is a great research which provides valuable data and information to promote the maternal and neonatal health.

- (3) I think every paper that discusses medical education is important and should be published. In this case the limiting factor is that correlations should be performed and measured with residents applying the forceps in real patients delivery. The design should be a quasi-experimental trial, before and after the intervention. The authors declared conflicts of interest? It may seem a kind of marketing the simulator. The discussion is poor and should be rewritten

The study unfortunately was not designed as a quasi experimental trial with a comparison of real patient delivery outcomes with forceps before and after training, but this is an area for possible research in the future.

The authors have all signed that they declare no conflicts of interest. Though we specified which simulation system we used in our training program, no funding from the manufacture was received. We have no interest in marketing of this particular simulator.

The discussion has been rewritten and improved on, please see the revised article.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light pink rectangular background. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Pooja Deb Doehrman'.

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