

Can You Escape the Horror?: Escape Room Teaches Blood Administration Skills

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*July 2022 PBRNR cohort and nurse educators pose for pictures in the blood escape room.
(Photos provided by Malcom Randall VAMC)*

Halloween was a fitting time to have a new cohort of Post-Baccalaureate Registered Nurse Residents (PBRNR) learn about safe blood administration. Administering blood is a common practice for nurses but can lead to serious or life-threatening effects if done improperly. The Malcom Randall VA Medical Center (VAMC) in Gainesville, Florida reimaged learning through simulation with a blood escape room called “Can You Escape the Horror?”

A creative team at Malcom Randall VAMC, led by Scholarship and Nurse Resident Coordinator Rosemary Adams, produced the blood escape room in October 2022 using skills learned at the [SLICE & Simulation Showcase](#) hosted by the Simulation Learning, Evaluation, Assessment, and Research Network (SimLEARN). Adams, Candy Winkleman and Ellen Audet brainstormed the best way to deliver the critical educational content needed for teaching safe blood administration in a simulated environment. The skills needed for the new nurses included where to find resources in SharePoint, what supplies are needed, where supplies can be found and how to perform the process.

The following objectives were identified:

- Nurse will be able to locate the standard operating procedures (SOPs) on blood administration in SharePoint
- Nurse will be able to locate and review the content of the Consent for Blood Administration form in SharePoint

- Nurse will be able to identify complete an order set for blood administration
- Nurse will locate on SharePoint and review SOPs for blood administration
- Nurse will locate SOPs and review the procedure for type and screening process

Winkleman and Audet developed a virtual escape room where the PBRNRs completed the educational information needed prior to entering the physical escape room. To move through the PowerPoint platform, the PBRNRs had to find information on Sharepoint, review the SOPs, identify the supplies needed to safely administer blood and find what documentation was needed.



Decorations made the blood escape room feel engaging and exciting for participants.

Once the PBRNRs 'escaped' the virtual world, they entered the physical escape room with hazards everywhere they turned. The group maneuvered around the hazards and were able to meet the objective while having fun.

SimLEARN provided detailed education at the SLICE & Simulation Showcase, which brought together simulation experts from throughout the Veterans Health Administration to share how their practices are ensuring that VA employees receive effective and engaging training. The creative team at Malcom Randall VAMC that created the Blood Escape Room used what it learned at the showcase to teach blood administration skills. The team spent around 20 hours in planning and production, followed by more than three hours of set up. The actual escape room took about 45

minutes to complete with a 45-minute debrief. The PBRNRs shared how invaluable, engaging and fun the activities were for their learning.