MOST DIFFICULT STILL! ...

EXTREME SIMULATION ON BOARD OF A CARRIER NAVIGATING IN THE SEA. EXPERIENCE OF THE SPANISH MILITARY ANESTHESIA

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BACKGROUND AND GOAL OF THE STUDY

Multiple studies have demonstrated the importance of simulation to achieve better learning of knowledge, skills and abilities for medical students, doctors in specialty training or medical specialists.

The objective of this study is to describe the improvement in the acquisition of competencies by second-year medical students after undergoing simulation on board an aircraft carrier of the Spanish Navy.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Prospective descriptive study conducted on the L-51 ship “Juan Carlos I” of the Spanish Navy from June 12 to 23, 2017, during the FLOTEX naval maneuvers (29 warships / 3000 military members) in the Mediterranean Sea with 23 students from second course of Medicine School belonging to the University Center of Defense in Madrid (Spain).

During this study period the students underwent four simulations (with 1,6,4,1 casualties respectively -voluntary healthy-). After carrying out the simulations, the students filled out a pre-designed form on their degree of satisfaction, knowledge and skills prior to and after the four simulations.

RESULTS

100% of the students considered the drills a very satisfactory tool to acquire and improve medical knowledge.

98% improved their knowledge in terms such as:

- “attention to mass casualties“
- “initial attention to the trauma patient“
- “transfer of information about the patient“
- “patient mobilization“
- “resuscitation of damage control“
- “evacuation“.

For most students (90%) the most complicated variable was the “transfer of information about the casualty”.

Everyone would repeat the simulation experience again.

CONCLUSION

Simulation can be a useful tool for medical students. The simulation can be done in an isolated and hostile environment such as a warship.