



SIMULATION EDUCATION AT JESSENIUS FACULTY OF MEDICINE, COMENIUS UNIVERSITY, IN WIDER CONTEXT

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D2.3 SERIOUS GAMES, SIMULATION AND MODELS FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION

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Simulation education center (SEC) was established at Jessenius Faculty of Medicine in April 2012, in September 2012 it commenced to actively participate on education process. Nowadays it is involved in pregradual training of medical and other healthcare specialities students for the third academic year.

The focus of this paper is to summarize experience gathered running “such an unusual facility” on a Slovak medical school for mentioned period. Presented are data characterizing education process as such, as well as its reflections by students and faculty employees. These reflections are based on different feedback surveys conducted in last two years.

The present schedule shows, that SEC hosts obligatory seminars in 12 different subjects (both for Slovak and foreign students) taught at the school per one academic year, except that optional extracurricular courses, several self-study activities, occasional courses for employees, conferences and presentation activities. Simulation technologies (educational software, models and part-task trainers) are employed also in at least 4 more subjects taught outside (but in cooperation with) SEC.

Students’ perception of simulation can be summarized as positive, while in feedback questioners provided by SEC in two subsequent academic years more than 90% of them consider simulations are bringing substantial increase in quality of teaching process. Still the students find a space for improvement in some aspects. The topic of simulations is also widely discussed by students in general feedback survey conducted on Jessenius Faculty of Medicine. Reactions of tutors involved in simulations are (according to SEC feedback forms and personal discussions) 100% positive. They do think simulations move teaching forward and appreciate cooperation with SEC. This attitude is unfortunately not shared by all those not involved, thus general perception of SEC by academics is quite unconvincing.

The experience gathered by own practice and the experience gained abroad calls for closer cooperation between facilities of this kind on local ground (Czech & Slovak) to best fit the modern teaching approaches to local needs, conditions and habits.

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