A Backwards Way of Going Forward
Measuring the Impact of Simulation on Patient Outcomes

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My bright idea!

Does simulation based education have an impact on patient outcomes?
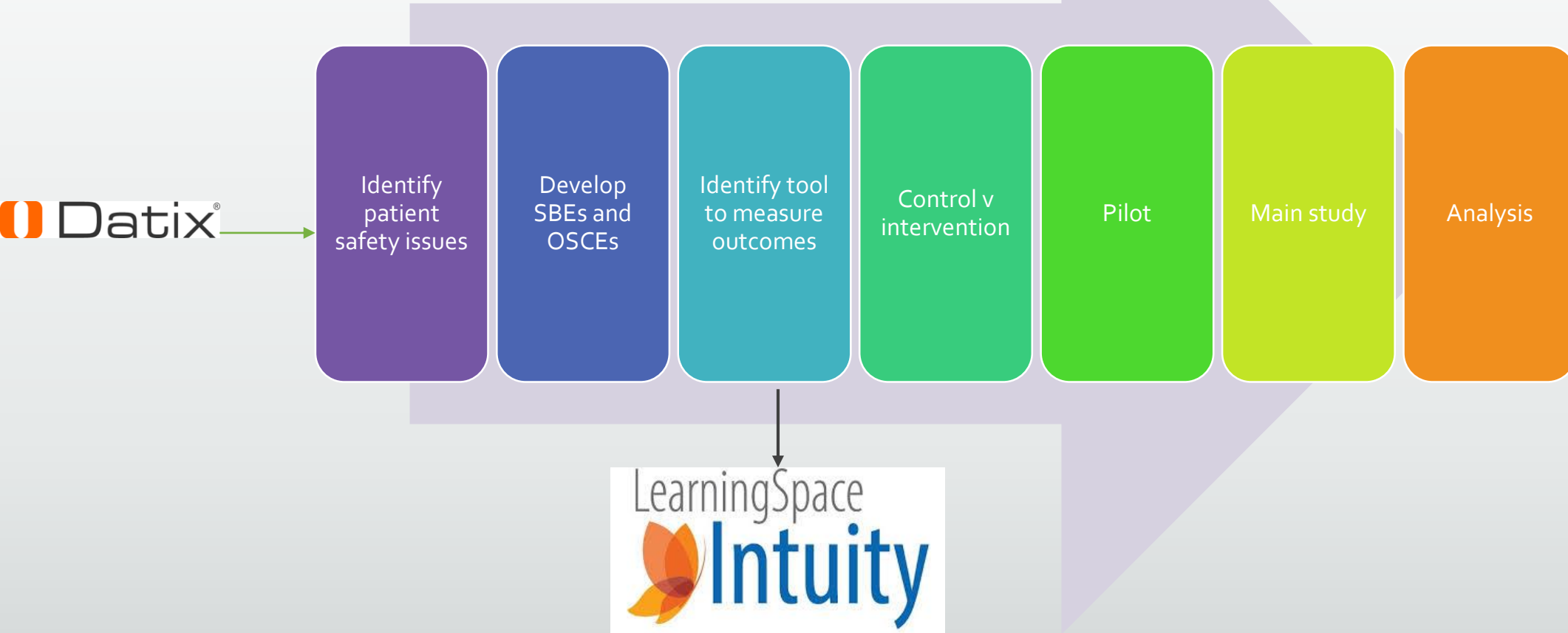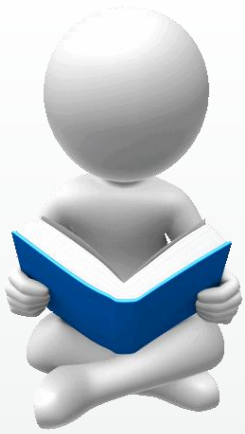
Why should we measure patient outcomes?
We know simulation works, don't we?
What does the literature say?

Pros

- Improves individual clinical competence and confidence

- Improves team performance

- Engages multiple learning styles

- Works as an assessment tool

- Acceptable pedagogy for learners

Cons

- Can be costly

- Labour intensive to deliver

- Ongoing battle for buy-in/support

Translational outcomes of simulation-based learning

(McGaghie et al., 2014)

(The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, 2016)

What about the patient?
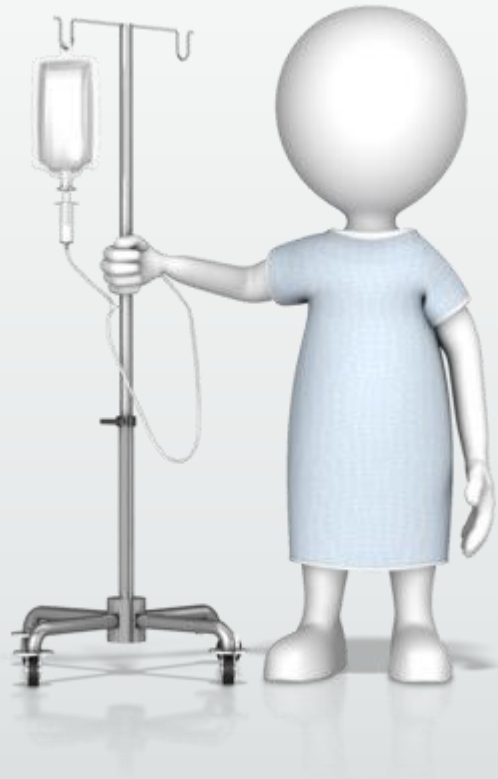
- Presumption that success translates to patient care, but does it?

- Little research so far to determine impact on patient outcomes

- The measure of quality tends to be clinically focused rather than patient focused

- Evidence base supports the need for research in this area

- ASPiH Standards for Simulation-based education ©

- Simulation based education research standards need to be applied

(Porter et al., 2016)

What are patient outcomes?

- PROMs – Patient reported outcome measures
- SPOMs – Standardised patient outcome measures
- MOMs – Manikin outcome measures
- PPOMs – Proxy patient outcome measures
- **PCOMs – Patient-centred outcome measures**

Patient-centred outcome measures are outcomes from clinical care that are important to the patient in other words, the care episode is viewed through the eyes of the patient.

(Curtis, 1998 and DiGioia et al., 2010)

Aren't clinical outcomes the same as patient outcomes? Don't fall into the trap…

Clinical outcomes

- Normal coronary angiography

- Stenting/bypass not required

- No adverse reaction to drugs/contrast medium

- Obs within normal limits on discharge

- Refer back to GP

Patient outcomes

- Chest tightness still present

- No definitive diagnosis

- Echo results not known

- Chest x-ray not carried out

- No idea who did angiography

- Shouted at as heart rate >130 prior to procedure

- Felt like being on a conveyer belt

(Kilpatrick, 2015)

Issues faced by Higher Education Institutions

- May not have direct access to patient in order to measure outcomes over time

- Proxy reported outcomes may be difficult to obtain

- Reporting on episode of care rather than entire patient journey

- Simulated patient or faculty reporting on outcomes

- Can argue that this is subjective, but isn't everybody a potential patient with their own perceptions and views?

Thinking about the last time you saw your GP, what was important to you?

- To be listened to

- To be reassured

- To be examined

- To discuss a diagnosis

- To discuss treatment/plan of action

- To have questions answered

- Not to feel rushed
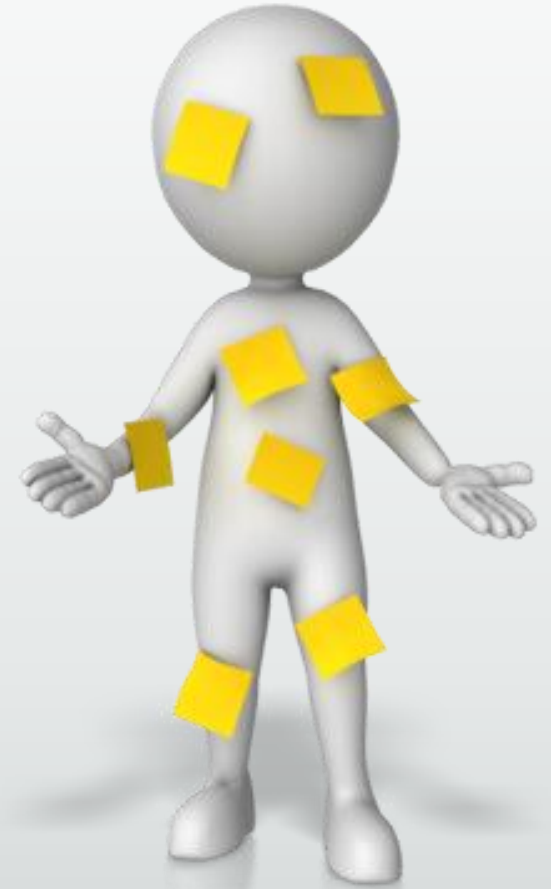
Measuring tools

- Need to be valid i.e. measures what it is supposed

- Need to be reliable i.e. results are reproducible

- The majority of validated tools use a 4-6 point Likert scale

- All are subjective and reliant on individual interpretation

- Subjectivity needs to be within an acceptable range

(Nominet Trust, 2015)

The five rules of measuring tools

- **Don't write leading questions**

  "How short was Napoleon?"

- **Avoid loaded questions**

  "Where are you going for your holidays this year?"

- **Stay away from double-barrelled questions**

  "Did the clinician answer your questions and put you at ease?

- **Absolutely do not use absolutes**

  *"Did **all** the questions you were asked make the consultation feel rushed?"*

- **Use clear language**

  "Did the clinician display empathy? i.e. did you sense they understood your concerns and feelings?

(Survey Monkey, 2015)

Developing your criteria and scoring system

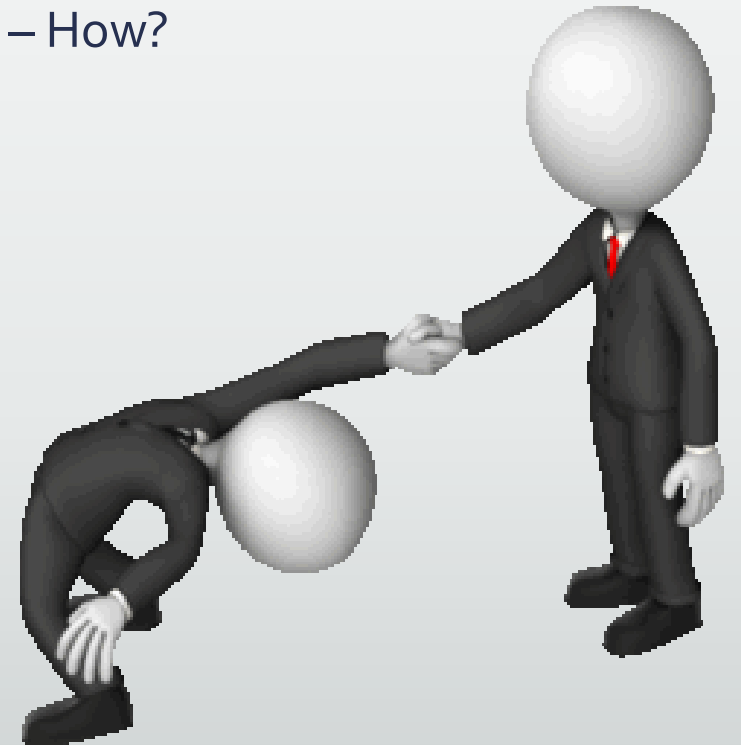| Criteria	Strongly agree (2)	Agree (1)	Disagree (-1)	Strongly disagree (-2)

Summary: Intended learning outcomes
A backwards way of going forwards

- To determine what patient outcomes are – What?

- To be able to justify the reasons for measuring patient outcomes – Why?

- To gain insight into how patient outcomes may be measured – How?

References

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Any questions?

After the conference…

Patient outcomes and questions will be collated from workshops. Please add your contact details to the list if you would like to receive a copy.

Contact details

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