# Creating Your Own Room of Horrors: How-tos of Developing an Experiential Patient Safety Curriculum <br> Kamna S. Balhara, MD, MA <br> Adriana S. Olson, MD, MAEd 

| What's missing in patient safety education? | Experiential learning: important in residents' patient safety education, but not widely implemented. <br> Situational awareness: a key non-technical skill for safety in other highrisk industries, with relevance to clinical safety. <br> Simulation-based training (the "Room of Horrors") can provide experiential learning in patient safety by incorporating concepts of situational awareness. |
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| What is Situational Awareness (SA)? | The perception of the elements in the environment within a volume of time and space, the comprehension of their meaning, and the projection of their status in the near future. <br> - Level 1 SA: Perception of status, attributes, and dynamics of relevant elements in the environment <br> - Level 2 SA: Synthesizing disjointed level 1 elements from multiple sources to understand their significance in light of pertinent operator goals, to form patterns that contribute to a holistic picture of the environment <br> - Level 3 SA: Projecting future action of elements through knowledge of status and dynamics of elements and comprehension of situation (i.e. Level 1 and Level 2 SA) |
| Tips for implementation | - In-situ simulation exercises <br> - Consider both national patient safety goals and context-specific hazards <br> - Build elements of all three levels of SA into exercises <br> - Commence exercises early in training and continue longitudinally <br> - Multi-disciplinary teams <br> - Encourage solutions <br> - Facilitated debriefing session and feedback |
| Selected references | Endsley MR. Toward a theory of situation awareness in dynamic systems. Human Factors. 1995;37:32-64. <br> Lowe DJ, Ireland AJ, Ross A, et al. Exploring situational awareness in emergency medicine: developing a shared mental model to enhance training and assessment. Postgrad Med J. 2016;doi: 10.1136/postgradmedj-2015-133772. |
| Get in touch | kamna.balhara@gmail.com, adriana.s.olson@gmail.com |

