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## DESCRIPTION

*Clinical Simulation in Nursing* is an international, peer reviewed journal published online monthly. *Clinical Simulation in Nursing* is the official journal of the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation & Learning (INACSL) and reflects its mission to advance the science of healthcare simulation.

Articles are indexed in the Science Citation Index Expanded, Journal Citation Reports/Science Edition, Social Science Citation Index, Journal Citation Reports/Social Sciences Edition, and Current Contents/Social and Behavioral Health Sciences.

We will review and accept articles from other health provider disciplines, if they are determined to be of interest to our readership. The journal accepts manuscripts meeting one or more of the following criteria: Research articles and literature reviews (e.g. systematic, scoping, umbrella, integrative, etc.) about simulation, Innovative teaching/learning strategies using simulation, Articles updating guidelines, regulations, and legislative policies that impact simulation, Leadership for simulation, Simulation operations, Clinical and academic uses of simulation.

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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

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• Research articles and literature reviews (e.g. systematic, scoping, umbrella, integrative, etc.) about simulation
• Innovative teaching/learning strategies using simulation
• Articles updating guidelines, regulations, and legislative policies that impact simulation
• Leadership for simulation
• Simulation operations
• Clinical and academic uses of simulation

We encourage papers to include higher levels of evaluation and outcomes that extend beyond confidence, self-efficacy, and perceived confidence. Papers that include these as outcomes should have a strong argument about the need to publish this kind of work. We also encourage studies to expand beyond a one-group pre-test, post-test evaluation, unless there is strong rationale supporting the need for these kinds of studies.

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WORD LIMIT FOR ARTICLE CATEGORIES (excludes abstracts and references)

Original paper - 3500 (4 tables and/or 4 figures)
Research article - 4000 (8 tables)
Research brief - 1750 words (2 tables)
Innovations in Simulation - 1750 words (2 tables)
Short communication - 1500 (3 tables)
Book/software/product review - 1200 words
Letter to the Editor - 200 words

REFERENCE LIMIT

Original paper - 40
Research article - 75
Short communication - 20
Research brief - 10
Innovations in Simulation - 10

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Manuscripts should focus on any area that advances nursing knowledge through simulation or technology. Research submissions must include appropriate analysis tables. Manuscripts must conform to the following guidelines. Upload your manuscript in Microsoft Word format and not as a PDF file. Follow the word limits for manuscript type noted earlier. Figures and/or tables should not be embedded into the text document. Complete instructions for electronic submission can be found at www.elsevier.com/authors.

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Key Points
Provide three key point statements that summarize the main points of your article.

Key Words
Identify no fewer than five (5) key words that literature searches would use to locate your manuscript if it were published.

Acknowledgments
Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references and do not, therefore, include them on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.).

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In addition, the Journal endorses specific reporting guidelines when writing any health-related research manuscript. Authors can find the most commonly required reporting guidelines on the EQUATOR Network, which also gives general information on how to choose the correct guideline and why guidelines are important.

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Divide your article into clearly defined sections. Each subsection is given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line.

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A theory section should extend, not repeat, the background to the article already dealt with in the Introduction and lay the foundation for further work. In contrast, a calculation section represents a practical development from a theoretical basis.

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- Results should be clear and concise.

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This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. A combined Results and Discussion section is often appropriate. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature.

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The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may stand alone or form a subsection of a Discussion or Results and Discussion section.

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Documents should include the following headings: Background, Sample, Method, Results, and Conclusion. Each subsection is given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line. Manuscripts may not exceed 1750 words in length, excluding abstract and references (separate documents). References are restricted to the most essential and limited to one page in length.
All Research Briefs must include a structured abstract of approximately 150 words (does not count toward page limit), using the following headings: Background, Sample, Method, Results, and Conclusion.

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List no fewer than three (3) key words that literature searches would use to locate your manuscript if it were published.

SPECIFIC INFORMATION FOR INNOVATIONS IN SIMULATION MANUSCRIPTS

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Research Briefs are reports of small-scale studies (e.g., pilot studies, studies with small samples and limited generalizability, quality improvement/scholarship of teaching and learning, research conducted in a single setting and case reports etc.) that may stimulate further investigations and alert other investigators of work in progress.

Documents should include the following headings: Background, Sample, Method, Results, and Conclusion. Each subsection is given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line. Manuscripts may not exceed 1750 words in length, excluding abstract and references (separate documents). References are restricted to the most essential and limited to one page in length.

All Research Briefs must include a structured abstract of approximately 150 words (does not count toward page limit), using the following headings: Background, Sample, Method, Results, and Conclusion.

Tables and figures are discouraged and only used at the editor's discretion. Highlights are mandatory for this journal. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that convey the core findings of the article and should be submitted in a separate editable file in the online submission system. Please use 'Highlights' in the file name and include 2-3 bullet points (maximum 85 characters, including spaces, per bullet point). This does not count toward the page limit.

Provide 1-2 key point statements that summarize the main points of your article.

List no fewer than three (3) key words that literature searches would use to locate your manuscript if it were published.

Innovations in Simulation manuscripts are short descriptions of innovative and creative ways that simulation has been implemented in a variety of settings. For example, and article can include descriptions of simulation props that have been developed, how simulation was integrated into a curriculum, or how hybrid simulation experiences were developed. These do not need to be research papers, however they do need to be grounded in the evidence and current literature. This supporting literature must be included in the paper. Authors should make it clear when statements are based on their own personal experience and not based on research findings.

Submissions should be original articles and should not exceed 1750 words, with no more than 10 references (only the most current and relevant). Manuscript must be typed double-spaced, with 1-in. (2.54-cm) margins on all sides. Pages must be numbered consecutively. Because the review is a blind process, do not include the authors' names or affiliations on manuscript pages or in running headers or footers. Include a narrative abstract no more than 100 words. The abstract and title page do not add to the page count.

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• All figures (include relevant captions)
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**Reporting sex- and gender-based analyses**

**Reporting guidance**

For research involving or pertaining to humans, animals or eukaryotic cells, investigators should integrate sex and gender-based analyses (SGBA) into their research design according to funder/sponsor requirements and best practices within a field. Authors should address the sex and/or gender dimensions of their research in their article. In cases where they cannot, they should discuss this as a limitation to their research's generalizability. Importantly, authors should explicitly state what definitions of sex and/or gender they are applying to enhance the precision, rigor and reproducibility of their research and to avoid ambiguity or conflation of terms and the constructs to which they refer (see Definitions section below). Authors can refer to the Sex and Gender Equity in Research (SAGER) guidelines and the SAGER guidelines checklist. These offer systematic approaches to the use and editorial review of sex and gender information in study design, data analysis, outcome reporting and research interpretation - however, please note there is no single, universally agreed-upon set of guidelines for defining sex and gender.

**Definitions**
Sex generally refers to a set of biological attributes that are associated with physical and physiological features (e.g., chromosomal genotype, hormonal levels, internal and external anatomy). A binary sex categorization (male/female) is usually designated at birth ("sex assigned at birth"), most often based solely on the visible external anatomy of a newborn. Gender generally refers to socially constructed roles, behaviors, and identities of women, men and gender-diverse people that occur in a historical and cultural context and may vary across societies and over time. Gender influences how people view themselves and each other, how they behave and interact and how power is distributed in society. Sex and gender are often incorrectly portrayed as binary (female/male or woman/man) and unchanging whereas these constructs actually exist along a spectrum and include additional sex categorizations and gender identities such as people who are intersex/have differences of sex development (DSD) or identify as non-binary. Moreover, the terms "sex" and "gender" can be ambiguous—thus it is important for authors to define the manner in which they are used. In addition to this definition guidance and the SAGER guidelines, the resources on this page offer further insight around sex and gender in research studies.

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