

## REASON WHY?

This project is aimed at helping staff members practice communication and fitting of equipment within challenging situations, replicated in access/home visit scenario. In line with providing training and allow personal development for practitioner's continuous professional development.



To improve staff competence and confidence with completing home/access visits in line with personal competencies and self-evaluation by December 2024 as evidenced by self perceived competence rating.

## PLAN

Following the physiotherapy team carrying out successful simulation training for their on-call staff, the occupational therapy team, recognising the evidence base around simulation training wanted to utilise it to address confidence in completing home visits.

Home visits had been commonplace before the covid pandemic but stopping during the height of the pandemic and have never returned to be part of normal practice.

The plan was to use the home simulation suite at the University of Wolverhampton, as this replicates a typical home environment including kitchen, bathroom, lounge and bedroom and stairs, as well as typical furniture (not adapted)

## DO

17 (7 Occupational Therapists, 1 Apprentice Occupational Therapist and 9 Therapy Assistant Practitioners) members of staff from across both hospitals took part in the simulation training.

The simulation covered three different scenarios: these included completing a home visit with a confused patient, completing an Access visit, together with working out which equipment would be needed and how to fit the equipment in the house, and lastly having difficult or challenging conversations with family and relatives when completing a visit for a fast-track patient (someone who is receiving end of life care at home)

## STUDY

Staff were asked to rate their competence prior to training and following training and rated themselves higher in the three areas post training.

The feedback from the training was valuable as some staff since qualification had not had the opportunity to complete a home visit of any kind.

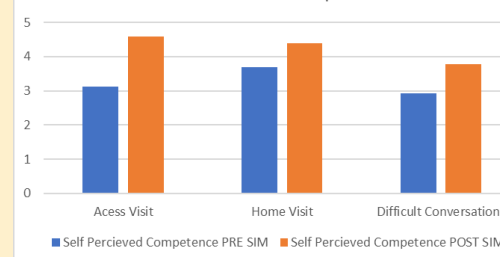
After the the training 18 % more home visits have now been completed (this equates to 2 more visits, so may not be significant) However, this is not a full data set as two members of have either left post and no longer work for the Trust. It is not known if this small increase is related to increased confidence.



It was great to get hands on experience with the equipment in a non-pressured environment

Learning by doing and quality feedback to improve my clinical reasoning

Self Perceived Competence



Number of Visits Carried Out Pre and Post training



A valuable experience to simulate home visit as I have not been able to attend one since being in role.

## ACT

The team plan to **ADOPT** the simulation training and repeat it yearly.

The training will be **ADAPTED** for students and the therapy support workers as they may not have had any experience at being able to identify necessary equipment for home or been involved with home visits before.

### The Next Steps

The team would like to ensure that all relevant staff have access to the same training and therefore will offer it to colleagues who did not have the opportunity to attend this time round.