Across surgical specialties, simulation training is becoming a mandatory part of the curriculum as it offers experiential learning opportunities. (1)

In thoracic surgery programs, there are some high fidelity technical skill-based simulations but there is a lack of "non-technical skill" learning exercises which encompasses competent teamwork and communication. Furthermore, most existing simulation programs involve expensive mannequin, animal models and dedicated facilities.

Non-technical skills have been identified as relevant factors promoting a successful and meaningful career through appropriate decision making, communication and interprofessional skills. (2)

Our goal was to develop a simulation training program with the following qualities:
- Low cost
- Readily reproducible scenarios
- High fidelity scenarios
- In-situ (in functional operating rooms)
- Focused on non-technical skills
- Feature components which also require technical skills

Three thoracic surgery experts and three thoracic surgery residents were evaluated by four Thoracic Surgery Consultants through the NOTTS and TeamSTEPPS2 criteria.

All simulation participants completed MMO questionnaire.

A number of latent safety threats were identified within our institution.

The simulation was trialed with thoracic surgery consultants and residents with great effectiveness.

NOTTS and TEAMSTEPPS2 scores proved the simulations validity as it was able to differentiate trainee from consultant.

There was a very positive response to this simulation training as evident in the MMO scores.

In addition to trainee learning, this simulation program was able to identify latent safety threats which can be addressed to improve patient safety at our own institution.

This is a unique simulation, in terms of learning objectives and in-situ nature, and is a Canadian first.

A novel and inexpensive Canadian in-situ Thoracic Surgery crisis simulation model was developed and used to identify latent safety threats and reinforce team training behaviors in a high risk clinical setting.

This simulation model will be featured as part of the 2016 Canadian Thoracic Surgery Boot Camp.

The simulation was developed and used to identify latent safety threats and reinforce team training behaviors in a high risk clinical setting.

Future Direction
- This simulation model will be featured as part of the 2016 Canadian Thoracic Surgery Boot Camp.

References