CAEP Feature Education Innovation Report

Name of Innovation (limit to 1 clearly defined project)	Using Clinical Grade Cadavers for High Fidelity Simulation
Lead Innovator	George Kovacs
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Contact for Lead Innovator	As above.
Does this project have it's own website?	No.
What is your division or department's website?	http://www.medicine.dal.ca/departments/department-sites/emergency.html
Description of the Innovation (500 words max) – see Glassick's Criteria	**Goals:** The procedural skills learning adage of "see one, do one, teach one" is no longer acceptable to learners, educators and the public. Simulation has come a long way as an educational adjunct to improve both procedural skills learning and clinical decision-making. **Preparation/Background:** Access to mannequins and other higher-fidelity patient simulators is increasing. These simulators are often costly, can be limited in function, and may not be suitable for learning many procedures. Historically, donated human cadavers have been used for learning purposes, but the fixation process used to preserve these specimens results in rigid unrealistic tissue. Access to non-preserved cadaveric specimens can be challenging for various reasons. **Methods**: Since 2007, the Dalhousie Division of Anatomy, in collaboration with the Departments of Emergency Medicine and General Surgery, have been using "clinical grade cadavers" (CGC). These CGCs are preserved using a newly-adapted embalming technique that retains a natural compliance and texture that is very similar to that of living human tissues. This embalming process preserves the body's clinical condition for up to a month after the donor's death. **Results:** The result is a truly realistic model that can replace or augment the use of other simulators. At our institution, CGCs are now being used in a hospital setting to provide a multidisciplinary simulation environment for learners. **Reflective critique:** There is no higher-fidelity simulation than one that uses the human body as a medium for learning. Clinical cadavers provide a cost-effective, safe solution for teaching and learning lifesaving skills and address an experience/competency gap where educational opportunities are inadequate or simply not available in adequate numbers to attain or maintain competency.
Who wrote this summary? (Name, Email if not listed above)	This was extracted from the previous poster titled: Using Clinical Grade Cadevers for High Fidelity Simulation that was written by: G Kovacs, M Murray, R Sandeski, B Vair, J Ross for presentation at the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians conference.