

How is foundation doctor simulation training delivered across Kent, Surrey & Sussex in 2017/18?

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Introduction and methodology:

The methods used to deliver simulation training for foundation doctors are known to vary across Kent, Surrey and Sussex (KSS)¹. We wanted to investigate these differences in further detail, initially by looking at the impact upon simulation candidates. Electronic surveys were sent to simulation leads at trusts across Kent, Surrey & Sussex between September and November 2017. The results of our first survey questions are summarised below.

Numbers of foundation doctors based in KSS per trust and foundation year²

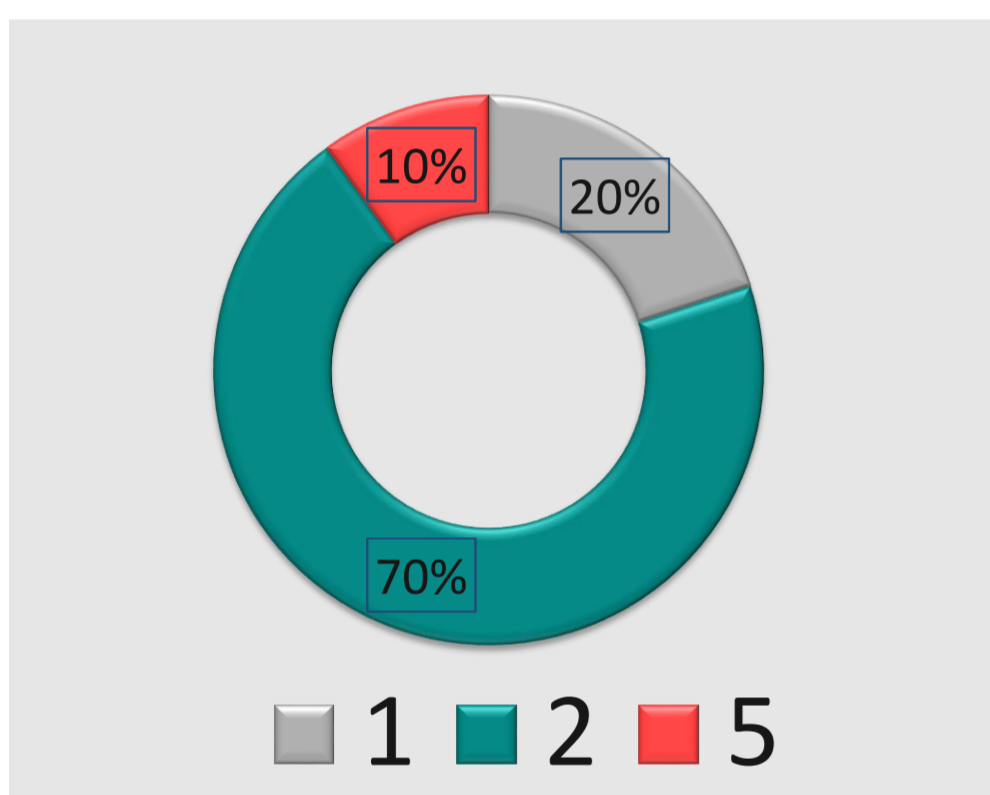
Trust	FY1s (2017/18)	FY2s (2017/18)
Ashford and St Peter's Hospitals NHS Trust	47	41
Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust	36	54
Royal Surrey County Hospital NHS Trust	34	33
Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust	77	69
East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust	35	43
Surrey & Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust	30	30
Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	57	55
Dartford & Gravesham NHS Trust	25	29
East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust	59	64
Maidstone & Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust	56	54
Medway NHS Foundation Trust	41	43

1. How many FY doctor candidates are directly involved in each simulation scenario?

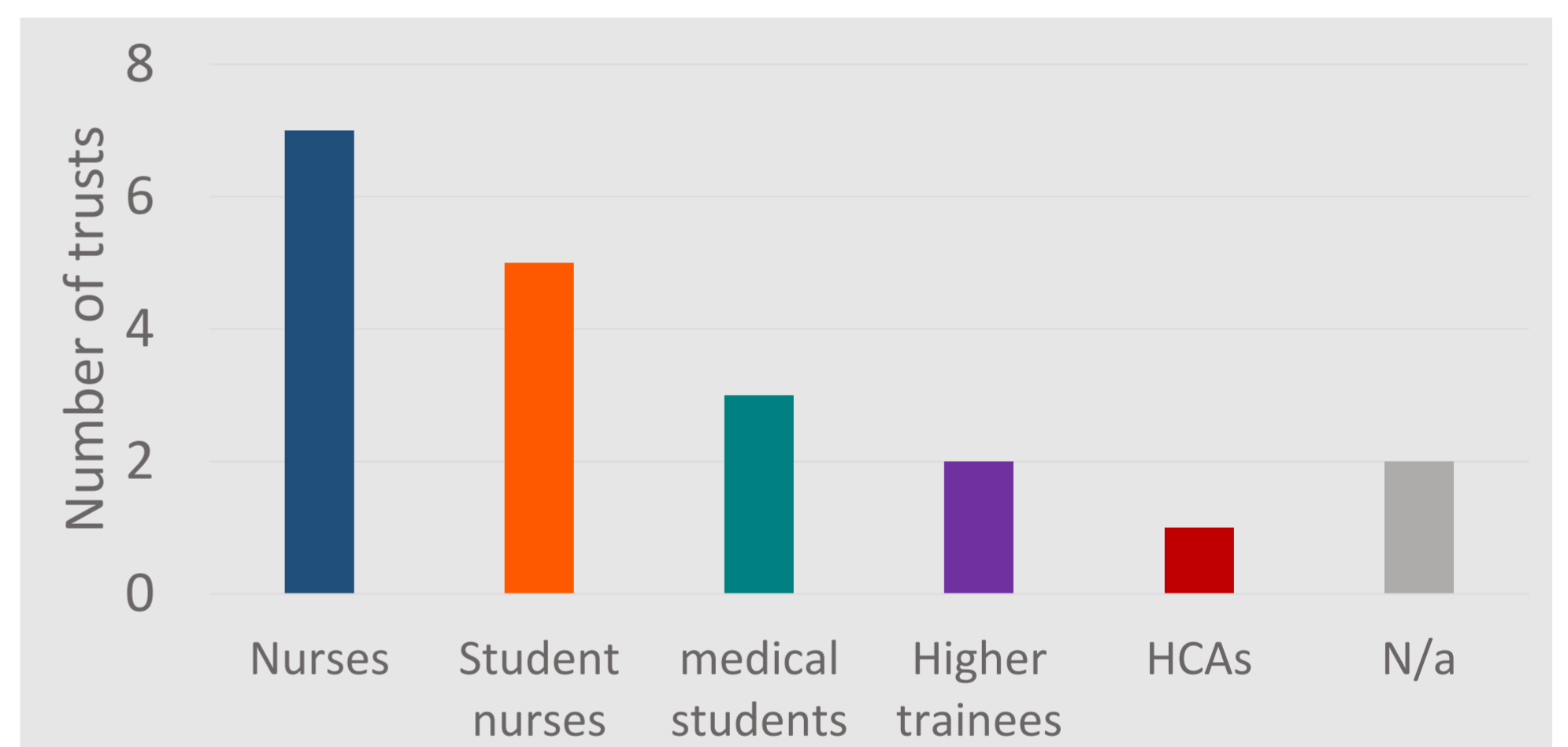
A majority of trusts in KSS reported that they involve two FY candidates in each scenario (70%). 20% of trusts run simulation with a single candidate, and one trust involves 5 FY doctors in their scenarios.

2. If any training sessions are multidisciplinary, which other participants are involved in FY scenarios?

Over half of trusts (7 out of 13) involve nurses within scenarios designed for foundation doctor candidates. Student nurses are also commonly involved. Only two trusts reported that Foundation doctor simulation training is not multidisciplinary.



The majority of simulation scenarios involve 2 FY doctors. Image from Frimley Park Hospital, Surrey



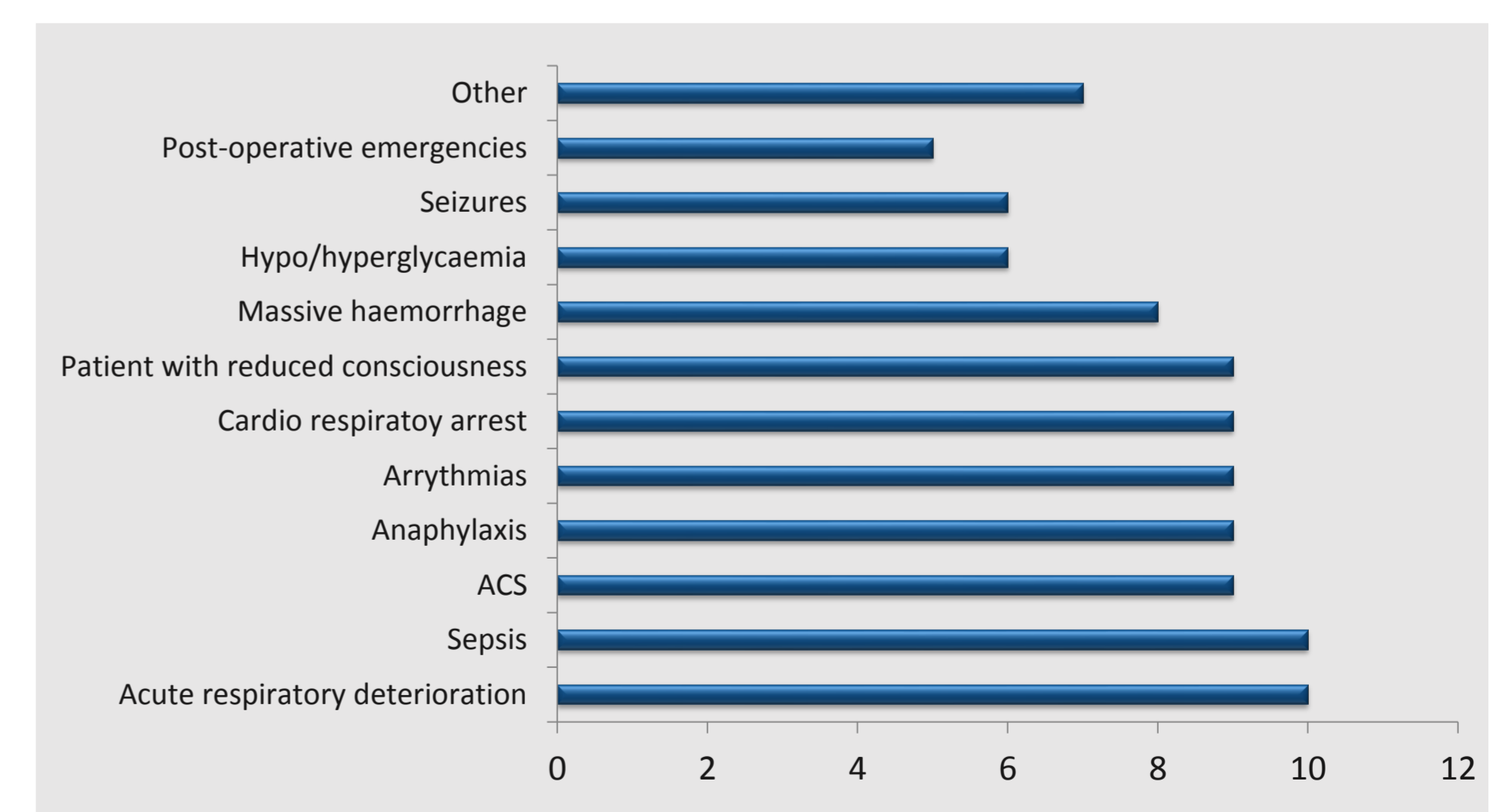
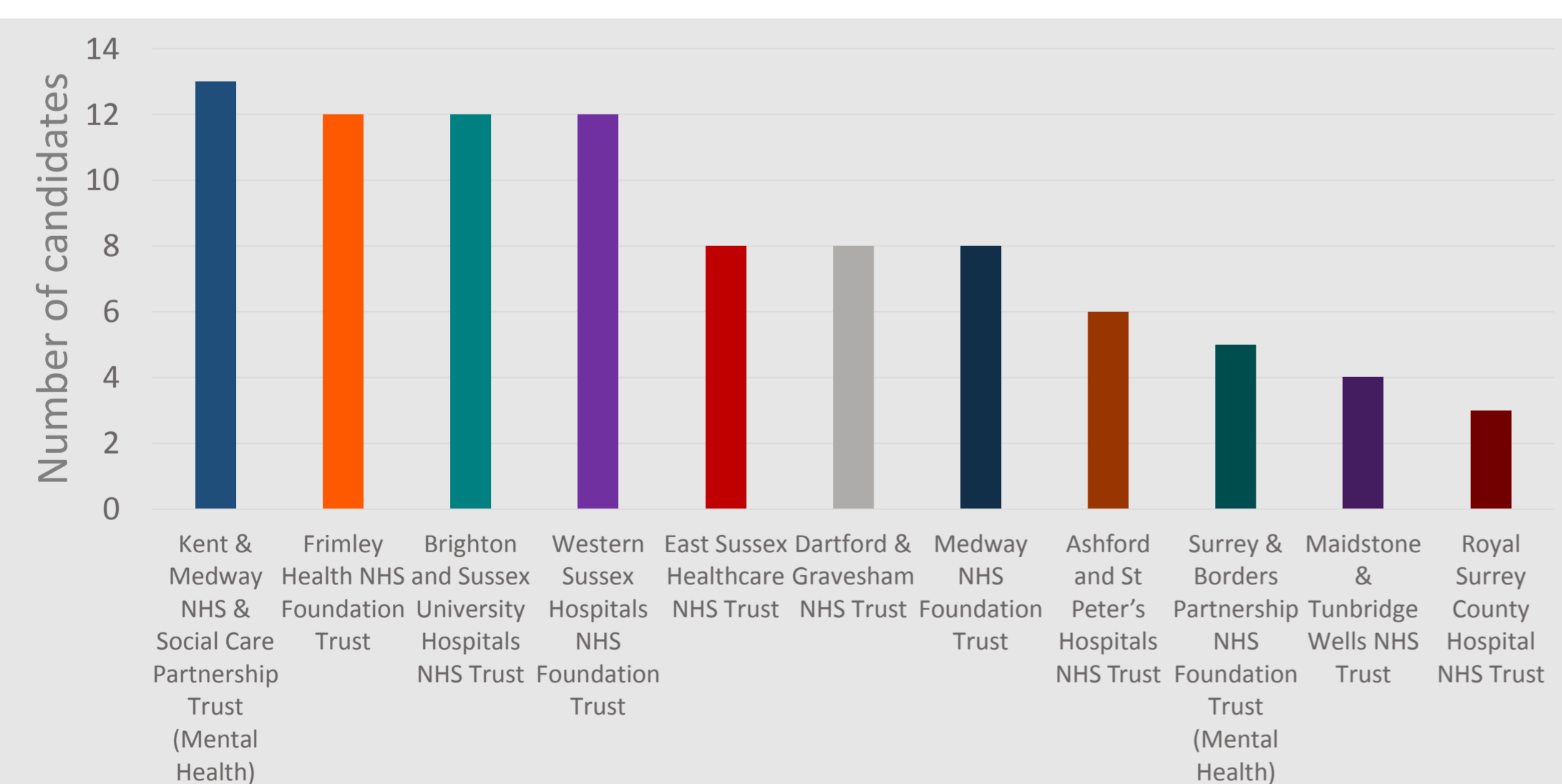
Number of candidates per scenario

3. How many FY doctor candidates attend each simulation session?

Our data show that there is significant variation in numbers of foundation doctors who attend simulation training sessions across different trusts, ranging from 13 candidates to only 3. Further details are needed to identify how often these numbers of candidates are present, and whether there is any negative impact of larger numbers of candidates at each session.

4. Which scenario themes do trusts run for FY doctors?

Trusts reported that they run similar scenarios for foundation doctors across KSS, with acute respiratory deterioration and sepsis being the scenarios most commonly used. Other more unusual themes included AKI, intestinal perforation and digoxin toxicity. The sources of scenarios vary as well, with most trusts developing their own scenarios.



Conclusions

- Our initial research highlights some interesting trends across Kent, Surrey & Sussex in the methods used for foundation doctor simulation. The numbers of candidates involved in each scenario and scenario themes appear to be fairly consistent throughout the region.
- Most trusts provide multi-disciplinary simulation sessions, most often involving nurses and nursing students.
- There is wide variety in numbers of foundation doctor candidates attending simulation sessions. Further research is needed to identify any reasons for this variation and any positive or negative impact this may have.

References

1. Health Education England (2017). Simulation training provision for Foundation doctors in Kent, Surrey & Sussex – An overview for 2016/2017. London: Health Education England.
2. South Thames Foundation School (2017) Community and Acute Breakdown [Microsoft Excel spreadsheet]. London: South Thames Foundation School. Available from <http://www.stfs.org.uk/applying-stfs-1> [accessed 7/2/2018]