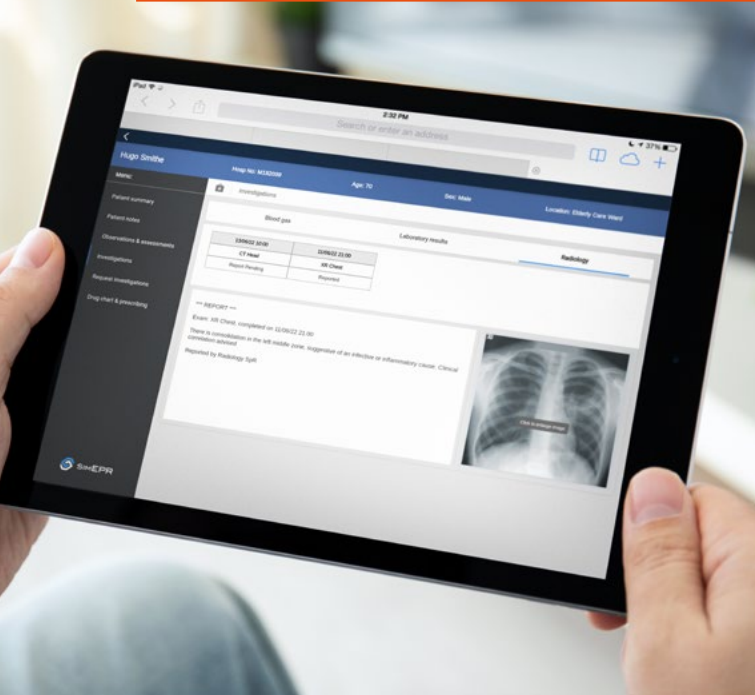**Kent Surrey Sussex Academic Health Science Network**

SimEPR - embedding digital skills in clinical training

SimEPR offers a digital solution that allows practical clinical training to more accurately reflect the digital transformations in healthcare that are being driven by the NHS Long Term Plan.

Its ability to combine digital skills with practical clinical training not only offers enhanced learning outcomes, but also helps equip our future NHS workforce with the skills to safely and confidently use electronic patient records. In turn, this will optimise patient outcomes by reducing the incidence of electronic system-related clinical errors.
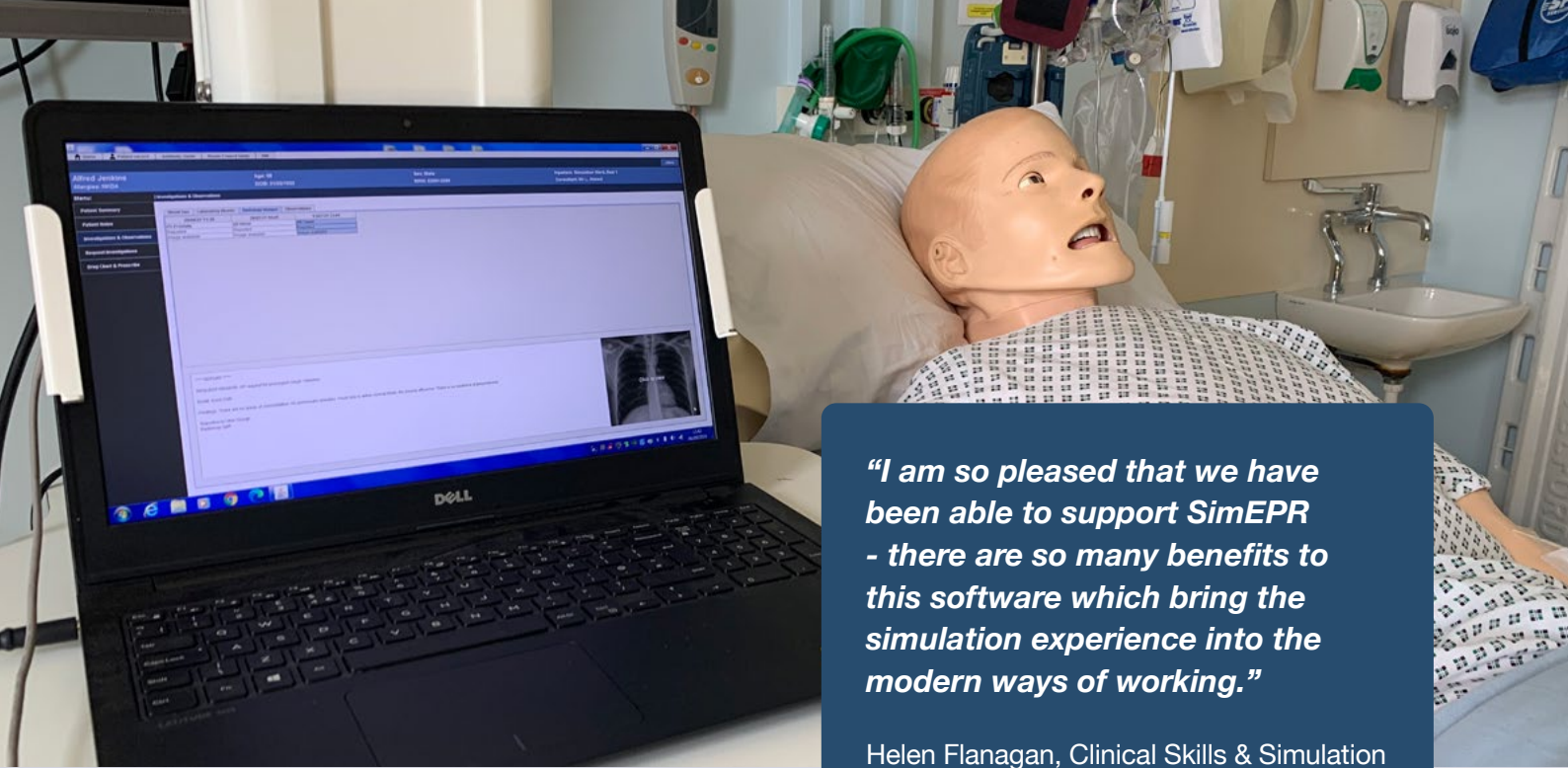
Digitalising crucial medical training

In line with the NHS Long Term Plan, electronic systems are becoming increasingly common in healthcare settings but practical medical education in the UK continues to use paper-based methods. SimEPR aims to address this 'digital gap' in clinical training by creating an educational experience that is more representative of true clinical practice and additionally equips future workforce with the skills to safely and confidently use electronic patient records. In turn, this will optimise patient outcomes by reducing the incidence of electronic system-related clinical errors.

SimEPR is an educational electronic patient record, featuring customisable patient scenarios, which can be integrated into routine simulation

"Really useful and clear EPR system that was easy to use. Resembled real life and was an efficient system with all the key functions available for prescribing, note taking and ordering investigations."

A F1 doctor at University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust

training for medical students and healthcare professionals. The technology replicates electronic notes, drug charts, observations and clinical investigations. In addition, it offers the ability to generate electronic prescriptions, electronic documentation and request investigations that update in real-time so trainees can review the results of tests they have requested.

Benefits of SimEPR

Across the 4 medical simulation centres piloting the solution, 140 medical students and junior doctors have used SimEPR during their simulation training to date. Multicentre data has revealed clear benefits to simulation training:

86% of trainees reported SimEPR created a more realistic training experience

82% of trainees reported SimEPR helped augment their clinical learning

86% would recommend their department continues to use SimEPR for future simulation training sessions

SimEPR's development

SimEPR was developed by Dr Arron Thind, a GP trainee with a determination to tackle everyday healthcare challenges through digital solutions. Throughout his clinical training, he noticed a discrepancy between the use of electronic systems in clinical practice compared to the use of paper-based methods in routine practical medical training.

KSS AHSN has helped his work with peer support through its Innovation Leads Network and facilitated introductions to local medical schools and simulation experts. With this support, SimEPR was deployed as part of a six-month pilot in Brighton and Sussex Medical School in September 2021, leading to a commercial agreement to use SimEPR for medical student and junior doctor training in the longer-term.

For more information

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