**About the program…**
Simulation in Motion-Nebraska (SIM-NE) is a program within the Interprofessional Experiential Center for Enduring Learning (iEXCEL) at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC).

The program uses four mobile simulation labs, a family of human patient simulators, and a variety of commonly used emergency medical equipment to offer immersive and dynamic training that encourages active learning, critical thinking, and problem solving. The labs are housed in Kearney, Omaha, Norfolk, and Scottsbluff and are dispatched out to the region surrounding these hubs to provide training in the local communities. Typically, a truck is staffed with a paramedic and a registered nurse to facilitate the training.

**Training content…**
Once a training request has been received, SIM-NE staff work with the requesting entity to design a training event that will most fit the needs outlined in the request. Most training sessions will consist of simulation scenarios followed by a debriefing.

As SIM-NE looks to the future, training events could include didactic education supplemented by 3D animation and augmented or virtual reality training.

Training session length will vary based on the number of participants and the objectives of the event. Sessions could last anywhere from a few hours to all day or even be a multi-day event.

**Trucks…**
The four mobile simulation labs are custom built straight trucks that have a simulated emergency room, a simulation control room, and a simulated ambulance. In the simulated treatment areas you will find “faux2” (compressed, non-medical air that flows from the oxygen regulators), climate control, and live
Simulators…
Each SIM-NE truck has a full complement of patient simulators including an adult male, an adult female (capable of delivering a baby), a school aged child, and a newborn. In most cases, the staff will bring only the simulators necessary for the scheduled scenarios. Upon request, SIM-NE can also bring along task trainers such as IV arms, infant IO legs, urinary catheterization models, difficult airway head, central line care trainers, and tracheostomy/nasogastric tube torsos.

Equipment…
The trucks contain most of the typical equipment that you would find in an ambulance or emergency room. Additionally you will find video laryngoscopes, cardiac monitors/defibrillators, automated CPR devices, IV pumps, IO equipment, and ventilators. Almost all of the equipment are functional medical devices.

Scenarios…
The SIM-NE program has many scenarios that are ready for use to meet your training needs. Some examples of these include:
- Adult, child, or infant medical emergencies such as cardiac, respiratory, stroke, allergies, sepsis, and poisoning/overdose.
- Adult, child, or infant traumatic emergencies such as shock, burns, head injuries, multi-system trauma, and toxic exposure.
- Adult obstetrical and gynecological.

SIM-NE staff have the capability of developing a scenario to meet the specific needs of a requesting entity.

Continuing Education…
For a participant to obtain a certificate of completion, the participant must attend the entire session and complete the post session evaluation. Credit for partial attendance cannot be granted. Programs offered by SIM-NE meet the Nebraska regulatory requirements for EMS continuing education and non-peer reviewed nursing continuing professional development. Further accreditation or credit for other professions may be a possibility. Contact SIM-NE staff to discuss these possibilities.

Items to be aware of…
The patient simulators and/or equipment may contain some latex components. In some instances, cottonseed oil is used as a lubricant on certain equipment or simulators. Some evidence suggests that persons with peanut allergies may have cross sensitivities to cottonseed oil. In either of the above stated cases the participant should take the appropriate precautions. As previously stated, most of the medical equipment the SIM-NE uses is actual medical equipment, participants should use caution when operating such equipment. SIM-NE also may employ audio/video recording and/or photography for educational and promotional purposes.

Points to consider before requesting a training session…
- What dates and times would you like to host the training? Please note that we will ask for three (3) potential dates/times, as we have four (4) trucks that serve nearly 500 organizations across the state.
- How many participants will we potentially have? The number of participants possible is driven by the amount of time available for a training session. SIM-NE staff will work with the requesting
agency to determine length of training based on the number of participants.

- Where will we park the truck? The trucks are quite large. A standard, residential, concrete driveway could be damaged by the weight. Due the length and width, a truck will take up approximately eight (8) standard parking stalls. The angle of approach and turning radius must also be considered. The trucks must be level to operate correctly. Please select a spot that is as level as possible. Finally, the trucks are much taller than a standard vehicle, so overhead clearance is also a consideration. One final consideration for parking is the air intake for any building heating/air conditioning/ventilation system. Both the truck and the generator run off diesel and subsequently produce exhaust. Placing the truck in an area immediately adjacent to an air intake can result in exhaust fumes entering the building.

Truck dimensions: Length – 45 feet, Width – 15 feet, Height – 14.5 feet Weight – 35,000 pounds

More points to consider before requesting a training session...

- What about the weather? Living in Nebraska we know that weather is subject to change at a moment’s notice. There are a few general guidelines that apply to operating the truck in weather extremes. On days that temperatures are expected to be lower than 5°F or sustained winds of 25 mph or more, the truck will NOT be able to travel to training. In addition, if the National Weather Service issues one of the following alerts for any of the areas that the truck will be travelling through, the truck will not be able to travel to training. (Tornado warning, severe thunderstorm warning, flood/flash flood warning, winter storm watch or warning, or high wind watch or warning). Please keep in mind that the weather for the storage location of the truck and the training location and everywhere in between needs to be considered.

- Does the truck have to be running during the training (or can the truck be brought inside a large building for training)? Once the truck is physically set up (level and the slide outs deployed) the engine can be turned off. However, the functions of the simulation areas run off the on-board generator. To operate the truck without the generator the hosting facility needs to have a special receptacle. Please contact the SIM-NE office for more information.


To request training...
Requests for training need to be submitted via our online form. SIM-NE prefers at least six weeks notice for a training event however the notice may be waived in certain circumstances. Please go to our website at https://unmc.edu/sim-ne/ and click on the “Request Training” button to start the process of bringing a training to your entity. After completing and submitting the form, you will be contacted by a member of the SIM-NE team to confirm and finalize the arrangements for your training.

The cost of training...
SIM-NE was initially funded with a grant from The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust. The funding supported initial start-up costs and allowed for training to be provided at no cost for EMS providers and critical access hospitals. With the grant complete our current goal is to keep the project funded and provide this critical training at low or no cost to attendees. To make a gift to support SIM-NE, click on the University of Nebraska Foundation “Give Now” button on the SIM-NE web page (https://www.unmc.edu/sim-ne/)

If you have any questions, please contact SIM-NE at (402) 559-4868 or sim-ne@unmc.edu.

We look forward to training with you soon.