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## Prince William County School of Practical Nursing Simulation Lab

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## Learning/Simulation Center Technological Advances Enhance Student Learning Environment

The possibilities of technology are changing the process and content of nursing curricula. The tools of learning are more available to students and faculty and the Learning/Simulation Center has become a major setting where a wide variety of simulated clinical experiences can be accessed without risk to actual patients.



Simulation is a teaching/learning tool which mimics actual situations in clinical practice as closely as possible to teach content, assess progress, develop clinical reasoning skills and learn or practice psychomotor and communication skills. It is a great teaching tool because it integrates best educational practices such as active learning, collaboration, diverse learning styles and high learner expectations.



*In the simulation lab practicing assessment skills.*



Debriefing is an important part of the learning experience. Lengthy, personalized, instructor-led debriefings are an integral part of the training. Video clips recorded during the scenarios are used to illustrate what went well and where improvement is needed.

Prince William County School of Practical Nursing and Potomac Health Foundation  
Goals of the simulation lab are to:

- Increase student competency and confidence in the nursing skills they perform by graduation.
- Increase students critical thinking ability to ensure an increase pass-rate on the National Certification exam for Licensure as a Practical Nurse .
- Graduate nurses with improved nursing skills; decreasing the amount of time needed for orientation.