
STAR Center

FROM PRACTICE TO PERFECT



AHN WEST PENN

STAR is one of the region's elite simulation centers, fully accredited by the Society for Simulation in Healthcare.

SHARPEN YOUR SKILLS SAFELY

The Simulation, Teaching, and Academic Research Center (STAR) on the West Penn Hospital campus teaches health care through highly realistic, simulated practice sessions.

AHN.org/STARcenter





They
breathe

They
bleed

They
teach

CARE FOR TRUE-TO-LIFE PATIENTS IN A SIMULATED HOSPITAL WHERE YOU'LL LEARN FROM YOUR MISTAKES

Using functioning, full-size manikins or body parts, your students can practice taking blood, giving medication, and inserting a catheter or breathing tube. Anatomically complete, these simulators will respond when students get it right or wrong. Students can observe and make corrections as vital signs deteriorate, breathing becomes shallow, and heart rhythms change.

FROM OPERATIONS TO ENDOSCOPES

The STAR center offers a variety of training opportunities.

In our surgical suite, you'll be under pressure to perform an emergency cesarean section or put out a fire in the operating room — with authentic sound effects and patient responses.

In our technology lab, you'll learn endoscopy, cardiac catheterization, and laparoscopy with robotic surgical controls, real-time feedback, and scoring.

In our Standardized Patient course — where actors pretend to be patients — you will improve your communications and listening skills.

We also offer educational videos and classroom instruction spaces.

Simulation can reduce medical errors and increase safety with realistic, hands-on experiences.



Instructors take control

USE OUR SYSTEMS TO TRAIN, MONITOR, AND SCORE STUDENTS

You can look through a one-way window to view your students' actions as you control the manikin to react in realistic ways.

STAR boosts critical thinking and hands-on problem solving — without life and death consequences.

OVERHEARD FROM OUR STAR CENTER PATIENTS

“I gave birth four times this week!” — *Sim Mom Stella*

“You can sew up my wounds, again and again.” — *Trauma Matt*

“Teaching students makes my heart go wild.” — *Harvey the Cardio Simulator*





Discover the miracle of birth — sim style.

Our labor and delivery unit has several birthing simulators for vaginal and cesarean deliveries. You can observe labor and delivery, and monitor both the mother's and baby's heartbeat and breathing to ensure a successful birth.

In our NICU, you can monitor vital signs and attach tubes and IV lines to tiny infant simulators — weighing one to eight pounds.

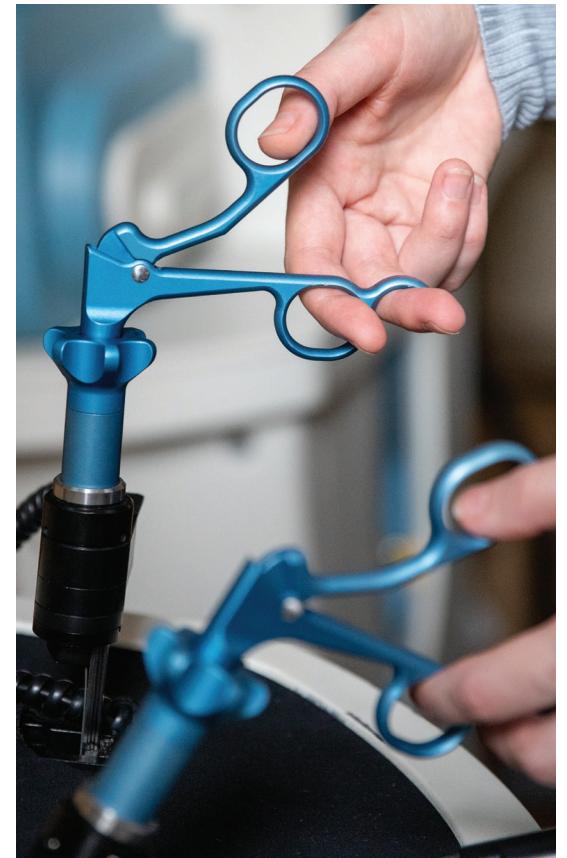




Here, practice makes perfect

You can test your skills in our ambulance or our fully equipped mock hospital wing. Or go virtual in the technology lab, where video games meet colonoscopies.

Simulation bays and classrooms are spread throughout three floors.





Where patients teach

WE KNOW SIMULATION CAN ONLY GO SO FAR

That's why we have human actors play the part of patients in real-life scenarios through the STAR Center Standardized Patient program.

We act as patients and family members, while students conduct a health assessment. Afterwards, we rate them on their listening skills and provide feedback.



CHANGING PERCEPTIONS

“My patient was confused, then disinterested, then angry. I reacted routinely, thinking it was dementia. In the debriefing, I realized my biases about age, gender, culture, and odd behavior can get in the way of good listening and true communication.”



We can create a customized course for you – just ask

WE OFFER TRAINING TO:

Student nurses • Allied health profession students • Practicing clinicians •
Physicians and medical residents • Teachers, community members •
Emergency Medical Services (EMS) teams • High school STEM students

WITH MOBILE STAR, WE BRING TRAINING TO:

Schools • Community centers • Hospitals • Physician offices

OUR MOST POPULAR COURSES:

Basic airway management • IV and phlebotomy techniques • Mock code response •
CPR and basic life support • Measuring vital signs • Catheter insertion and care •
Central line insertion • Medication infusion • TeamSTEPPS training for patient safety

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ARRANGE A TOUR OR TRAINING:

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