



Major Obstetric Trauma Simulation: Learning from Experience

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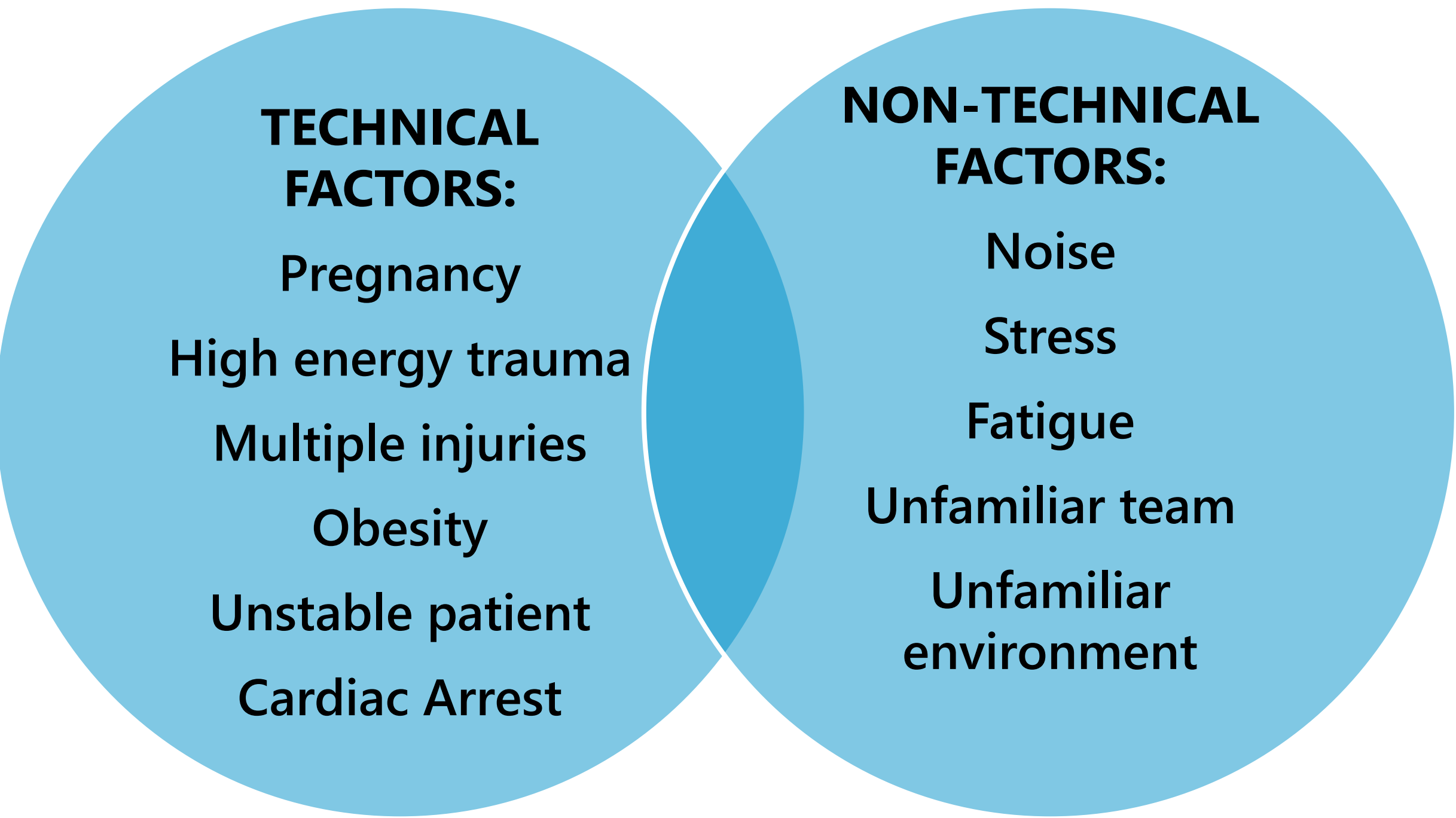
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OBJECTIVE

Despite advances in the care of the multiply injured trauma patient, clear understanding and guidance for the management of major obstetric trauma is lacking. Explanations may include the altered physiology of pregnancy, as well as the relative infrequent occurrence of obstetric trauma.

Following a recent serious incident, it was recognised that greater trust-wide awareness and understanding of the management of an injured parturient was needed.

The challenging case involved a pregnant patient who suffered multiple major injuries following a road traffic accident. She went on to suffer a cardiac arrest and required a resuscitative hysterotomy.

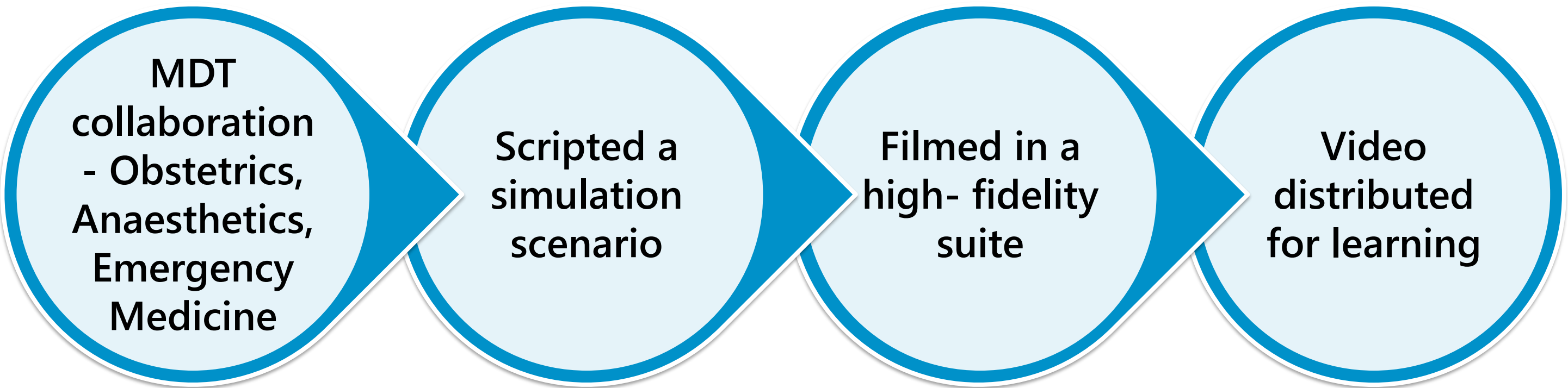


University Hospitals Coventry & Warwickshire is one England’s busiest trauma centres. Therefore, it was of paramount importance that an intervention was introduced to improve staff confidence and competence.

The COVID-19 pandemic necessitated socially distanced multidisciplinary teaching. Although trainees engage in PROMPT and MOET courses to focus on inter-specialty team working, we felt a greater emphasis on major obstetric trauma management would be beneficial.

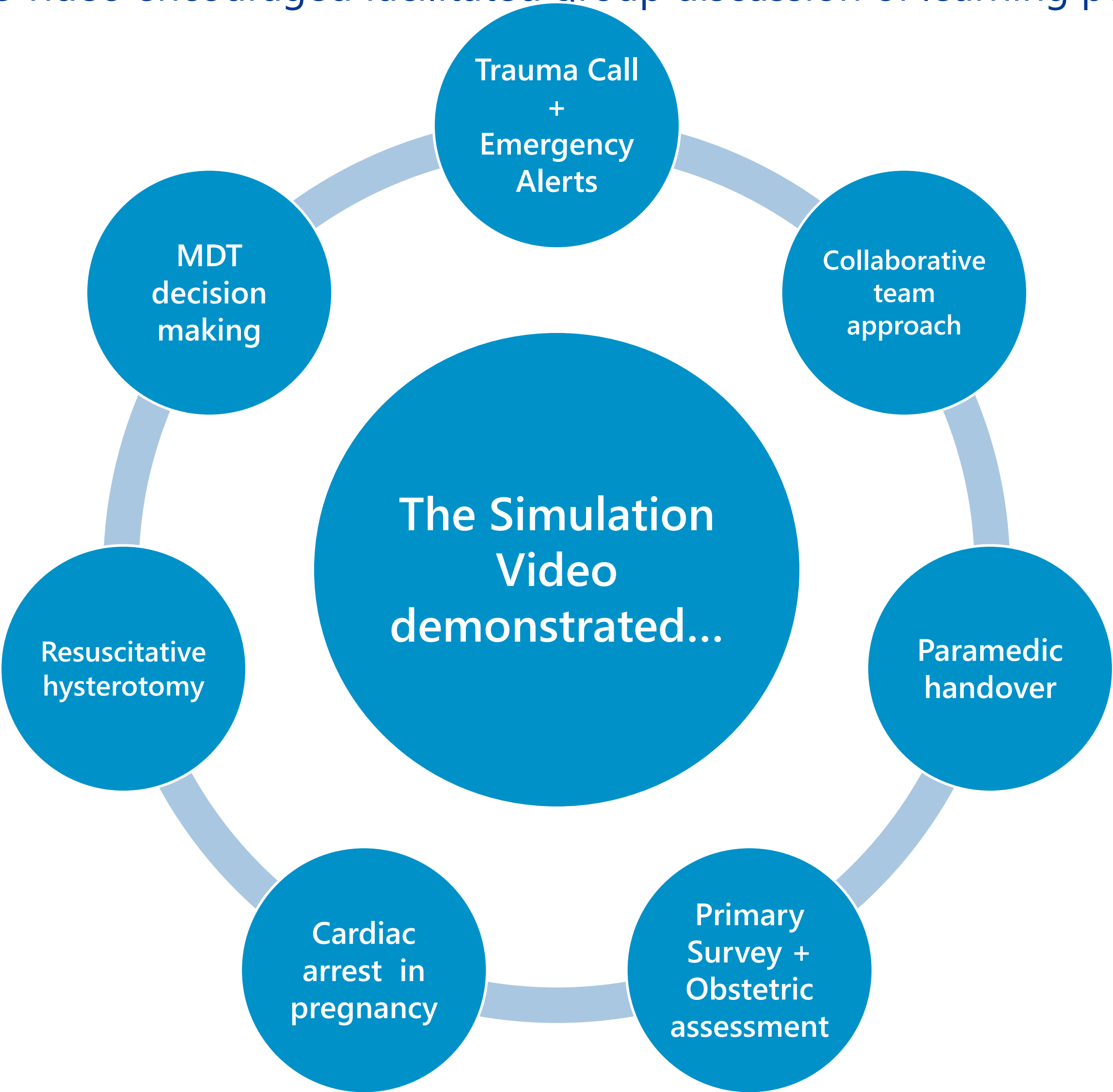
DESIGN

A high-fidelity trauma simulation video was developed following a multidisciplinary meeting with representatives from Emergency Medicine, Anaesthesia and Obstetrics, enabling specialty specific learning points to be highlighted.



METHOD

The video outlined the management sequence of an obstetric trauma. The video was used as a departmental induction teaching session for rotating trainees in Anaesthetics and Obstetrics. The video encouraged facilitated group discussion of learning points.



RESULTS

Feedback forms were completed before and after the session. Only 36% of trainees reported prior involvement in the management of major obstetric trauma or obstetric cardiac arrest. Prior to the session, 43% of trainees did not feel confident to manage a major obstetric trauma. Encouragingly, this reduced to only 7% post-session. Overall 86% of candidates agreed or strongly agreed the session had improved their understanding of the management of major obstetric trauma.

BEFORE THE VIDEO TEACHING SESSION	AFTER THE VIDEO TEACHING SESSION
Only 36% had prior involvement in managing obstetric trauma or cardiac arrest	86% agreed the session improved their management/confidence
43% did not feel confident to manage obstetric trauma	7% did not feel confident in the management of obstetric trauma
	Session improved understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The MDT roles• Appropriate emergency alerts• Cardiovascular implication of pregnancy on the management of cardiac arrest

CONCLUSION

Creating a high performing team takes significant work and motivation. A serious event provided the impetus to develop a cross specialty teaching session aimed at improving trainees' confidence and ability in major obstetric trauma management. The video facilitated the discussion of important learning points, and feedback showed improved trainee confidence and understanding. We aim to tackle low trainee confidence and overcome the challenges caused by frequently changing trauma teams through ensuring continued use and development of this standardised multi-specialty teaching session in local and departmental teaching.