

O'GORMAN STUDENTS ACCESS STATE-OF-THE-ART PATIENT SIMULATOR

A group of grade 12 students from O'Gorman High School had the opportunity to experience first hand the pressures and challenges of critical care in an air ambulance. They visited and used the 'Patient Simulator' that is in Timmins this week to train paramedics.

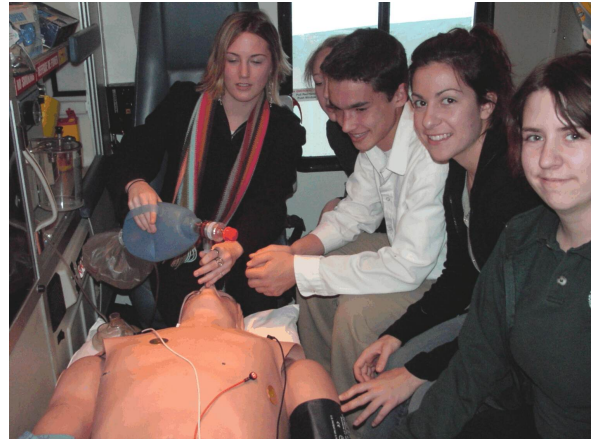
All of the students involved intend to pursue their post secondary studies in health sciences. This learning experience, made possible by Dr. Chris Loreto, served as a pathway to test future career aspirations. As part of their visit, they responded to the simulated medical emergency of the patient and performed advanced life support and controlled medical acts in response to the simulated medical emergency being exhibited by the patient, in an environment with acoustic disturbances and space constraints that exist during air transport of patients.

This initiation to dealing with critical care emergencies and the realities of a career in the health sciences provided them with valuable insights and inspiring guidance on fulfilling their own aspirations in this field.

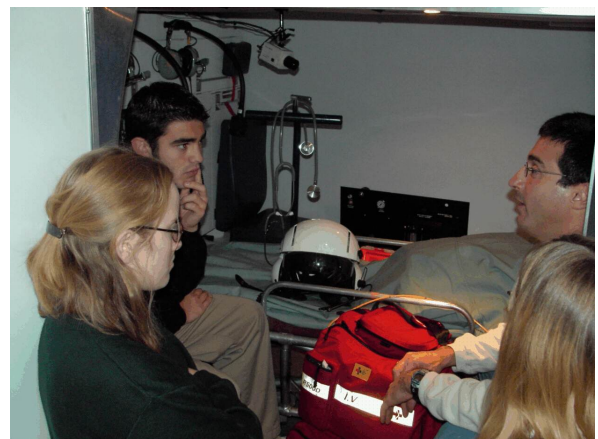
The Patient Simulator Unit is operated by the Ontario Air Ambulance Base Hospital Program, and travels throughout the province of Ontario to provide an alternative learning environment to realistically portray a variety of patient presentations and promote critical thinking. It is used for certification and continuing medical education of flight paramedics.

The synthetic patient used in the process provides dynamic cardiovascular, pulmonary and pharmacological responses that allow the simulator to age in real time. The unit has both a Type III and ambulance patient compartment and a Sikorsky S76 helicopter patient compartment.

**For more information, please contact:
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Grade 12 students assess vital signs and respond to the needs of the synthetic patient.



Dr. Chris Loreto (back, right) discusses critical care of patients during air transport.

