Rapid Interprofessional Mass Training in the Cardiff and Vale Covid-19 Response

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Background

The rapid rise in Covid-19 cases in early March 2020 necessitated a rapid, coordinated response to train healthcare professionals of all backgrounds. We sought to utilise the benefits of simulation methodologies to rapidly and effectively train healthcare professionals from a variety of backgrounds to manage challenging Covid-19 emergencies



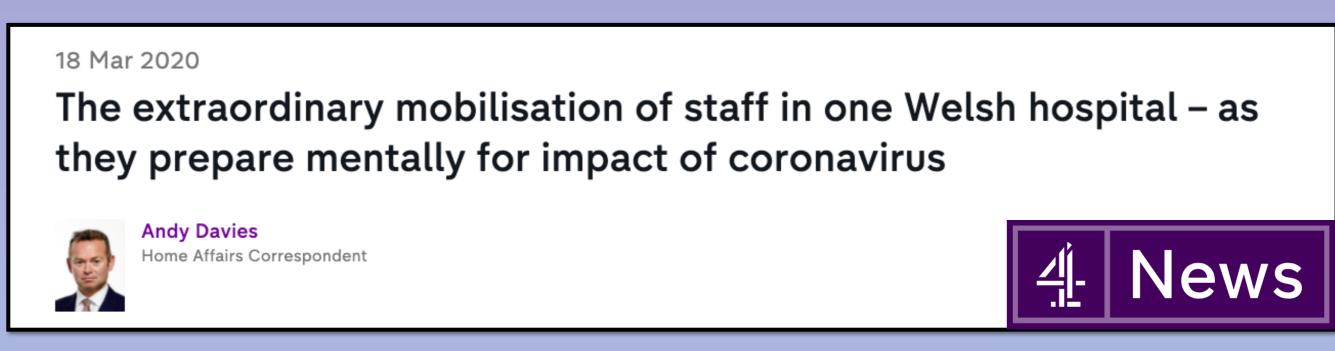




Methods

Instructors were sourced from departments of anaesthesia and emergency medicine with levels of experience ranging from core trainee to consultant. Following a daily faculty briefing to prepare the instructors, standardised teaching materials were used to run the sessions. Interprofessional clinical scenarios were covered in parallel drop-in sessions, each run five times per day with 12 delegates per session. These were 'Keeping safe' (donning and doffing PPE), 'Endotracheal intubation and airway management', and 'Management of the Covid-19 cardiac arrest and resilience/wellbeing'. They involved short interactive lectures and high-fidelity simulation followed by group debriefing. Attendees were doctors, nurses and healthcare support workers from a variety of clinical teams including surgical and medical specialties, paediatrics, EM, ICM and anaesthesia.







Results

600 delegates from a multitude of clinical teams were successfully trained over a two-week period; an achievement filmed and broadcast nationally on the Channel4 evening news.

Discussion

By keeping sessions concise and engaging with clear learning outcomes and high-fidelity simulation we successfully trained a significant number of delegates from many clinical backgrounds in a short period of time. Feedback from the sessions was immediately incorporated and also aided improvement of our Covid-19 checklists and guidelines such as the intubation checklist.