

# 5 Reasons RNs should consider simulation to help them provide better patient care.

## Patients are Your Passion!

**1** You became a nurse to help people, but lately it doesn't seem like that is what you do. As a Nurse you are challenged to take care of more patients in a shorter period of time. You have fewer resources and must work faster than ever before, while striving to provide the best possible care.

**ProModel** knows a nurses job is not an easy one.

*MedModel and Process Simulator are two ProModel products that can help RNs learn ways to improve patient care and optimize their time.*



## Most nurses walk 4 miles a shift!

During day shift a nurse can walk up to five miles. It can be three miles on an average night shift. A number of factors influence the distance nurses walk:

- 2**
- The size of the unit
  - The mix of patient rooms, single to semiprivate
  - The decentralization of nursing support spaces
  - The shape, traffic configurations and hospital's design
  - The frequency of activities
  - The nurse-to-patient ratio
  - The type of patient population

These findings were reported by researchers Ann Hendrich, et al in the Permanente Journal (2008). 36 hospital medical-surgical units were included in the study across 15 states with a total of 767 nurse participants.



*Simulation can be used to analyze the daily task load of RNs and find ways in which that load and the number of miles walked can be reduced.*

## Documentation takes up 1/3 of your time

- 3**
- In one study of 767 nurses, more than 3/4 of all reported time was devoted to nursing practice
  - 4 subcategories of nursing practice time:
    - Documentation (35.3%; 147.5 minutes)
    - Medication administration (17.2%; 72 minutes)
    - Care coordination (20.6%; 86 minutes).
    - Patient care activities accounted for 19.3% (81 minutes) of nursing practice time
  - 7.2% (31 minutes) was considered to be used for patient assessment and reading of vital signs



*Simulation can help you find counter intuitive measures to reduce all work, not just your paperwork and increase time for patient care.*

## Staffing levels and OT are big challenges!

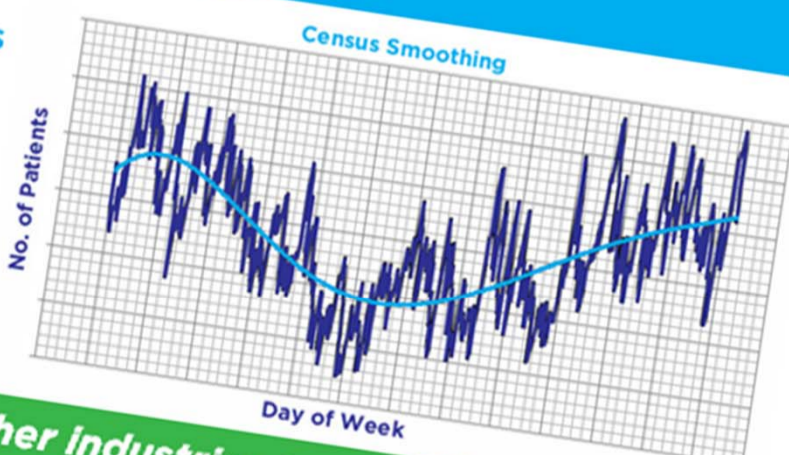
- 4**
- You can't keep adding to a nurse's workload and expect that everything will get done. Nurses are going to make decisions about what they can and can't accomplish
  - Prioritization of tasks won't be driven by patient condition, or what is best for the patient and family, but by other performance measures
  - The first result of over-utilized nurses is missed patient care



*Simulation can help you prioritize tasks so the important ones get done first and there is enough time for them all. It can also be used to determine the optimal staff requirements and utilization.*

## Variations in care result in poor patient outcomes

- 5**
- Decrease variation by smoothing the elective surgical schedule to avoid peaks and valleys that stress a hospital near capacity
  - Smooth patient census and improve admission handoffs
  - Create a consistent process for placing admissions and transfers into beds made available by patient discharges ASAP



*Simulation has been used for years in many other industries to reduce variation and improve flow. Learn from the experts how to use it in your hospital setting.*

**ProModel**<sup>®</sup>  
Better Decisions—Faster

# Still NOT sure?

As the front line decision makers for your patients, you are an important element in making hospitals and patient care better.

Contact us to learn how we can help you convince hospital decision makers that simulation is a great way to help improve patient care, clinical outcomes & even hospital revenue.

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