CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY

CONTRA COSTA
MEDICAL
CAREER
COLLEGE

MARCH 2021
Contra Costa Medical Career College offers an Associate of Applied Science in Surgical Technology and is committed to providing an environment that facilitates student success in acquiring the theory and technical skills pertinent to a professional surgical technologist. The college is institutionally accredited by Accrediting Council for Continuing Education & Training (ACCET) and the Surgical Technology Program is programmatically accredited by The Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) which allows all students to sit for the CST exam through The National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA).

Intensive study program includes anatomy, physiology, microbiology, professional practice, patient care concepts, surgical techniques, pharmacology & anesthesia, technological sciences, surgical procedures, and clinical experience in hospitals and surgery center where they are trained in various specialties in alignment with the core curriculum. Surgical Technologists are currently in demand at hospitals, outpatient surgery centers, doctors’ offices, and registries. Employment opportunities include acute care hospitals, outpatient surgery centers and physician’s offices. Surgical Technologists are currently in demand at hospitals, outpatient surgery centers, doctors’ offices, and registries. As the population grows, the need for surgical procedures is increasing dramatically along with the demand for Surgical Technology positions available. Many Surgical Technologists continue their education to become Registered Nurses or to pursue other Medical Career opportunities. The Contra Costa curriculum will provide you with both theoretical and clinical skills. After completion of classroom training, you will be placed in a clinical environment for on-the-job training. This will provide you with the opportunity to enhance your skills and will prepare you to enter into the exciting field of Surgical Technology.
Contra Costa was the first Surgical Technology program to purchase PeriopSimVR in March of 2020. Angela Robert, Conquer Experience CEO visited the campus and met with Stacey Orozco CEO of Contra Costa and Maria Duran Ruiz, CST Director of Surgical Technology. Angela demoed the VR application and Stacey and Maria were impressed by the demo and eager to explore the potential for the system to integrate into their existing program. Originally purchased to create a total of nine stations in their lab at Contra Costa, the PeriopSimVR software solution was going to be used for the student’s lab hours. Early planning indicated the system would be used in two groups of 9 for a total of 18 students in one class. The setup included a variety of technology to support learners across different devices, such as the 2D system on a tablet, and the VR Headsets for a full 360-degree environment.
In the initial phases of evaluating the application, the worldwide coronavirus pandemic changed plans dramatically. Unable to use the VR headsets and learn on campus, the 2D application from PeriopSim became a valuable tool for students to continue learning from the safety and comfort of their homes. “Our school had never taught online at all, and we had to move to a fully online platform due to the pandemic in days.” Maria Duran Ruiz, CST

Per requirements, students must scrub a mandatory 120 cases in person. Getting hours logged became challenging since elective cases were being canceled due to the pandemic. So, accreditors have decided to allow for 20% of the externship hours to be completed via simulation. Therefore, students are now completing that 20% via the PeriopSim application which has been an asset to the program and the students success. Angela Robert wrote a letter to Maria providing additional information including that simulation hours can be converted to real-time by a factor of 6. This means that due to the virtual nature of the surgery environment, time to complete tasks is shortened considerably (set up, scrubbing in, delays etc).
Deemed essential as it’s a medical school, Contra Costa prepared to reopen with COVID-19 safety protocols in place with two cohorts of nine students and instructors for Lab Hours. The 2D application would continue to be used by students finishing up their program hours. Any students out on externship are using PeriopSim to get their hours, and the ability to access a virtual but controlled environment has proven incredibly valuable for students. School was shut down temporarily with a covid case, and highlighted the importance of alternative learning opportunities. It is during this time that Maria began evaluating the PeriopSim with her students, and was excited about the software’s potential.

Customer Success Manager, Jumana Mascati set up a virtual call with Maria in December of 2020 to review the platform and its toolset and gather feedback. As an early adopter using the platform with her class for approximately 9 months at this point, which brought a variety of Learner’s testimony and experience to the discussion, particularly considering the multi-pronged approach to using the application that was required by the college. Maria had made some user discoveries and insights that allowed PeriopSim to further advance its system capabilities and is implementing new solutions. It is this commitment to customer experience that drives innovation and development at PeriopSim. It is also for this reason that users are encouraged to ensure they are running the most recent and updated version of the application in order to access the full suite of reporting and educational tools. New tools are being added all the time, and users can find the most up to date version here.
PeriopSim is a surgical training and assessment platform that combines virtual simulations, neuro education and game based learning to save time. When experience is in short supply or too expensive/challenging to attain, simulation training is an ideal option. Pilots have been using simulation for decades and it is a gold standard for certifying and re-certifying competence to fly some of the most complex planes in the world. Healthcare education is catching up. A National Simulation Study (https://www.ncsbn.org/ 685.htm) was conducted and the study provides substantial evidence that up to 50% simulation can be effectively substituted for traditional clinical experience in all prelicensure core nursing courses under conditions comparable to those described in the study. It is a study that we use as a foundation in describing how PeriopSim can benefit educators in terms of flexibility in education and timesaving. Additionally, we have been the subject of a number of research studies that you can find more information about here: https://www.periopsim.com/research/
PeriopSim takes live video footage of a one hour long procedure and creates a Virtual Simulation that is 10 minutes long giving a 6x in time savings for that experience. 1 Experience Hour = 10 minutes in simulation with PeriopSim. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, PeriopSim has been used by Educators in Departments of Surgical Services in hospitals across Canada and the US for the last few years. Educators use PeriopSim to improve confidence and competence of perioperative Registered Nurses (RNs) and Surgical Technologists (STs) during their orientation curriculum. PeriopSim can be combined with other learning tools such as AORN’s Periop 101, videos, live simulations and preceptor job shadowing. PeriopSim is used to bridge the gap between classroom and the OR.

There are over 35 Virtual Simulation Experiences on the platform and over 15,000 of these experiences have been completed by learners at our customer sites. To build these Experiences, we partnered with our customers at leading healthcare facilities to record the procedures, capture instrumentation and materials. We combine these assets with evidence based guidelines from leading sources including AORN and ORNAC. The Educator and Surgeon working with us confirm the quality of the module prior to release. We currently have a large pipeline of modules that are at different stages of development and we provide releases on a regular basis.

When COVID-19 impacted healthcare education more abruptly in mid-March 2020, we had some conversations with leaders in the Surgical Technology area as well as with our customers across the US and Canada in hospitals and we knew we had to act quickly and do something.
THE SOLUTION

PeriopSim was designed to be used on iPad and in Virtual Reality with HP’s WMR Reverb Headset or HTC VIVE. This would not work for Surgical Technology Programs that now had to move to 100% online learning. Students did not have access to iPads or Virtual Reality at home. We shifted our entire focus to launching PeriopSim on PC/Mac/Chromebook and Android/Windows Tablet as quickly as possible.

At the same time, we had to come up with a low-cost pricing package that would be easy to understand and make sense for schools in the short term as well as in the long term. We created our Educational Institution Package with limited pricing for COVID-19 and went live with communications. This allowed for the early leaders to share the information and get the innovative schools onboard and making simulation for procedures accessible within weeks.

We were incredibly impressed by the resilience, grace and energy from both the educators and learners in this new education configuration. The technical aptitude and speed at which they adopted PeriopSim were incredible and it was an honor to see this unfold.

"WE WERE INCREDIBLY IMPRESSED BY THE RESILIENCE, GRACE AND ENERGY FROM BOTH THE EDUCATORS AND LEARNERS IN THIS NEW EDUCATION CONFIGURATION."
A key aspect of PeriopSim that didn’t require any adjustment is the learning data system that does assessments on learners.

C or a D means they are learning and focusing on accuracy rather than speed.

A and B means that they are focusing on speed and delivery because they are already accurate.

Incomplete means that they haven’t done more than 3 simulations that are required to get an assessment.

The effort would take to do these detailed assessments is near impossible without technology like PeriopSim.
CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY

THE OUTCOME

Maria currently expects 18 Learners enrolled for the upcoming September 2021 enrollment year, and an active 14 students using the platform preparing for graduation. With the functionality of the Leaderboards, Maria can motivate her graduating students and create friendly competitions capitalizing on the competitive nature of surg tech students. The competitions have the added benefit of lifting Learner’s grades as they naturally improve their response times and begin anticipating the desired outcomes from the application’s prompts. Contra Costa was satisfied with the application’s ability to meet the needs of both the students’ and accreditors’ needs in a controlled environment.

Contra Costa is planning to continue on with the application and has renewed for their next two terms.

THE FACULTY

STACEY OROZCO, RN
PRESIDENT & CEO

MARIA DURAN RUIZ, CST
DIRECTOR OF SURGICAL
TECHNOLOGY

MEGAN GUALDERAMA, CST
INSTRUCTOR

MAGGIE RAMIES, CST
INSTRUCTOR
CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY

CONQUER EXPERIENCE

GET IN TOUCH

E-MAIL US AT INFO@PERIOPSIM.COM

MARCH 2021