

The Role of **Simulation-Based** Learning in **Healthcare** Education

Why it works, and what it means for T-Level learners

iRIS
The Scenario Platform



Industry Insights Workshop - Health and Science
Education and Training Foundation

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What is **simulation-based** learning?

Simulation-based learning

WHAT IS IT

- A structured, goal-directed learning method where learners practise clinical reasoning and skills in a realistic situation, then debrief
- Three ingredients: a realistic scenario, a deliberate learning objective, a structured debrief

Examples

Helping a patient mobilise
Recognise a deteriorating patient

Communication with a relative
Taking a blood pressure



SAFE PLACE

- Practice without risk to real patients
- Safe to make mistakes
- Mitigates negative reactions in real practice
- Encourages participation and confidence
- It allows mistakes to be learning opportunities



CONFIDENCE

- Repeated exposure builds familiarity
- Develops clinical reasoning skills
- Facilitates the identification of redflags
- Reduces anxiety before placement
- Confidence grows through experience, not just teaching

Why NHS Trusts use scenario-based learning

KEY POINTS

- Improves patient safety
- Supports teamwork and communication
- Identifies system issues

EXAMPLES

- Emergency scenarios
- Escalation processes
- Team-based care

*Simulation trains both **people** and **systems***

Why Universities Embed Simulation

KEY POINTS

- Bridges theory → practice
- Prepares for placements
- Supports assessment (e.g. OSCEs)

FOR T-LEVELS

Prepares learners for real clinical expectations early

Benefits for **T Level** students

KEY POINTS

- Safe introduction to clinical situations
- Builds early confidence
- Clarifies professional roles

CHALLENGES IT HELP WITH

- Limited placement exposure
- Anxiety about “getting it wrong”
- Uncertainty in clinical environments

CLINICAL SKILLS

- Patient assessment
- Decision-making
- Clinical observations (pulse, bloodpressure etc.)

NON-TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Communication
- Teamwork
- Prioritisation

*These are the skills that students **cannot** learn from textbooks alone*

In Summary

SIMULATION

- Uses scenarios to bring learning to life
- Focuses on safe participation, not perfection
- Encourages reflection and discussion

PRACTICAL IDEAS

- Role play patient interactions
- Use simple case studies
- Build scenarios gradually in complexity

KEY TAKE-AWAYS

- Scenario-based learning = learning by doing
- Builds confidence, competence, and safety
- Prepares learners for real healthcare environments
- Essential for early career development

What is **iRIS T Level** and how can it help?

Delivery challenges for T Level Colleges



Staff Expertise

NHS practitioners lack pedagogy; teachers lack clinical depth. No standardised CPD pathway exists.



Scenario Design Time

Creating realistic, curriculum-aligned scenarios takes hours staff simply don't have.



Inconsistent Quality

Without shared standards, simulation quality varies widely between teachers and between colleges.



Student Engagement

Repetitive or low-fidelity scenarios lose student buy-in on a demanding two-year programme.



Awarding Body Transition






Parallel NCFE/Pearson delivery from Sep 2026 adds significant operational complexity.



Ofsted scrutiny

Inspectors now require evidence of simulation quality and impact, not just its existence.

iRIS Solving the College Pain Points

| COLLEGE PAIN | IRIS SOLUTION |
|---|---|
|  No time to design scenarios | → AI generates scenarios in minutes, not hours |
|  Inconsistent quality across staff | → Clinically accurate, standards-aligned scenarios every time |
|  Students disengaged or underprepared | → Varied, realistic scenarios mapped to assessments |
|  NCFE/Pearson transition complexity | → T-Level library maps to both specs, future-proof |
|  Ofted scrutiny of delivery quality | → Evidence-ready simulation with consistency built in |

The T Level Curriculum Library



Saves 100s of hours

Pre-designed, curriculummapped scenarios ready to use. No blank-page problem.



Higher quality education

Scenarios include correct documentation, scripts and clinical detail, no shortcuts.



Sustained engagement

Variety of scenarios keeps students engaged throughout the programme.



Better assessment outcomes

Scenarios mirror the language and structure of the Employer Set Project.

iRIS | The Scenario Platform



The healthcare simulation platform built for Health T Level, curriculum-aligned, classroom-ready, and adopted in minutes.

01 · TIME SAVING

Classroom-ready in 5 minutes

Pre-built templates and smart content libraries dramatically cut faculty admin, create a new healthcare scenario in five minutes, not five hours.

02 · T LEVEL LIBRARY

Mapped to the specification

A comprehensive, curriculum-aligned library of resources built specifically for the Health T Level. All content is mapped to occupational standards and ready to use from day one.

03 · SESSION ASSESSMENTS

Find & close knowledge gaps

iRIS generates assessment checklists for each simulation scenario, helping colleges identify knowledge gaps and deliver targeted support exactly where it's needed.

04 · PROGRESS REPORTING

Track every learner

Detailed downloadable reports let educators track performance trends, competency development, and at-risk learners at any stage of the programme.

05 · FLEXIBLE MODELS

GAS, PEARLS, your way

iRIS adapts to the simulation framework your college already uses, create, deliver and manage scenarios with your preferred debrief model, with structured delivery throughout.

06 · CONSISTENT DELIVERY

Standardised, repeatable scenarios

Clinically authentic, repeatable scenarios, not dependent on variable human delivery, so students arrive better prepared, more confident, and assessment-ready.

07 · FACULTY TRAINING

Confidence for every facilitator

Built-in training tools and guided workflows let all staff, regardless of prior experience, deliver high-quality simulated learning with confidence and consistency.

08 · EQUIPMENT COMPATIBILITY

Works with what you own

Seamless integration with a wide range of manikins and classroom equipment, protecting existing investment and ensuring a future-proof learning environment.

To find out how iRIS can **transform** your Health T Level delivery,

Contact our specialist team: 0333 996 1611 |

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“ The iRIS AI-enabled simulation platform
changed our world. ”

Health T-Level Educator

Bournemouth & Poole College

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