

Debriefing Phases

1. Reactions Phase:

Feelings

Allow participants to vent or express emotions related to the simulation. Validate frustrations. This will allow them to move forward into the understanding phase and be open to learning.

“How was that experience for you?”

“What are your thoughts, feelings related to that experience?”

“What went well?”

“Is there anything that you would do differently?”

2. Facts

Summarize facts, allow students to chime in. Review - vital signs, assessments, procedures, tasks ...etc.

3. Understanding Phase: Review the simulation - what was the story, what happened - clarify.

Use the PAAIL method to clarify student actions for understanding

Preview (each topic)

Advocacy (I saw)

Advocacy (I think / I am concerned)

Inquiry (I wonder... what you think, how you saw it) *uncovering the learner's frames

Listen (what was driving the learner's decision / action)

4. Wrap-up

Reiterate key points discussed during the debrief, or key learning. Ask learners to tell you what they learned from the experience – how will they use the experience in their clinical practice going forward.

NB: Debriefing seeks to uncover participant's frames, frames direct our actions and are based on things such as: assumptions, previous experience, feelings, goals, rules...etc.

