

VIRTUAL SIMULATION IN NURSING EDUCATION: A NATIONAL SURVEY REPORT

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Virtual Simulation Workshop June 10 2021

Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN)

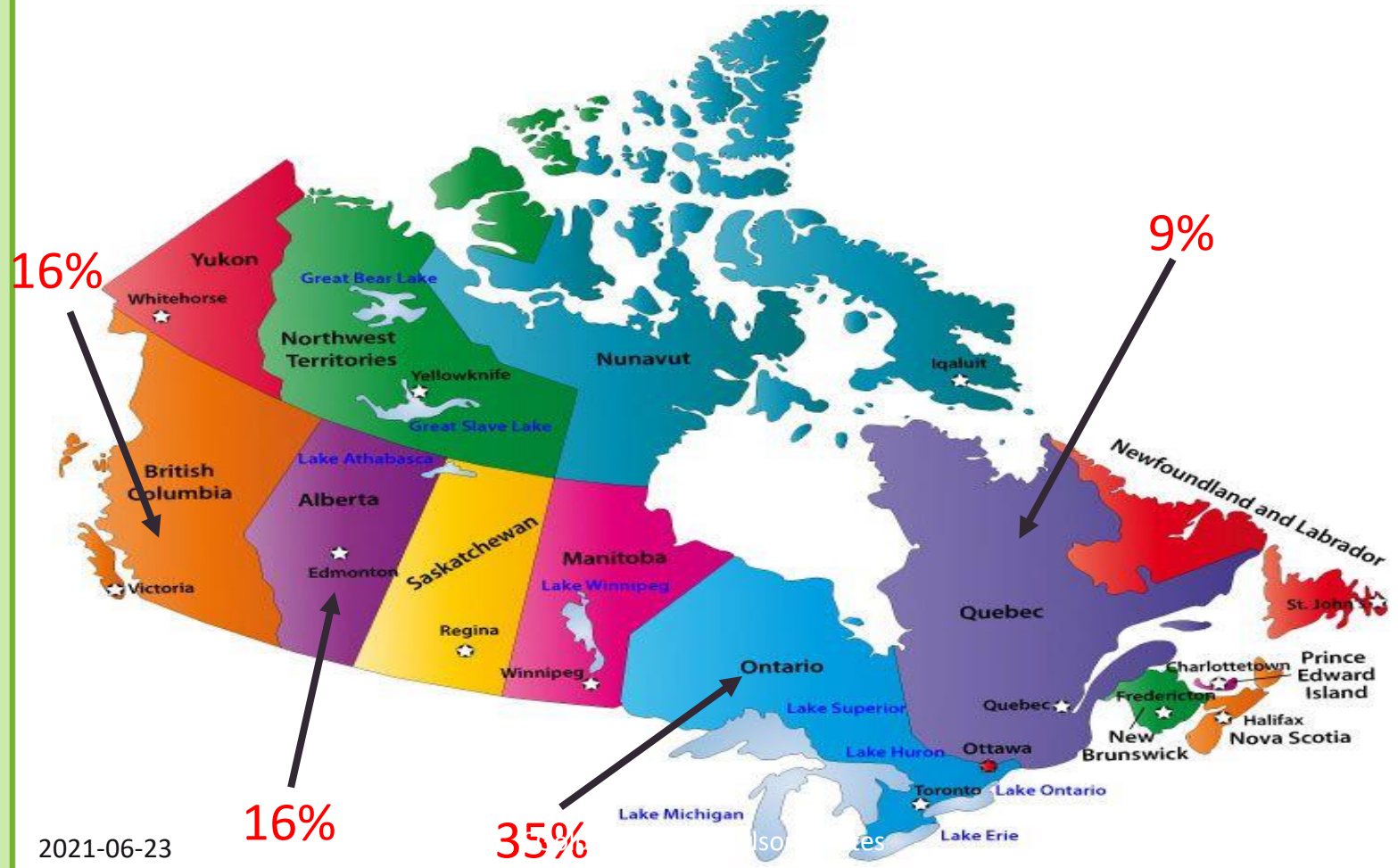
Association canadienne des écoles de sciences infirmières (ACESI)

- Technological advancements
- **COVID-19** context
- Rapid pivot to accelerated use of virtual simulation
- Canadian National Virtual Simulation advisory committee created
- Developed survey for national snapshot

SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

DEMOGRAPHICS

- 26 item online survey Sept 2020
- To 90 member schools, website & social media
- Response rate = **72% (n = 186)**
 - n = 19 French



Demographics (n = 186)

Professional Role	Count	%
UG Faculty	123	55
Graduate Faculty	28	12
NP Faculty	12	5
UG Clinical Instructor	23	10
Other	39	17
Employer	Count	%
University	97	59
College	57	35
Other	10	6
Experience	Count	%
< 2 years	10	6
2 - 5 years	16	10
5 – 10 years	33	21
10+ years	102	63

USE OF VIRTUAL SIMULATION

What types of remotely delivered virtual simulation have you used or do you currently use in your teaching?

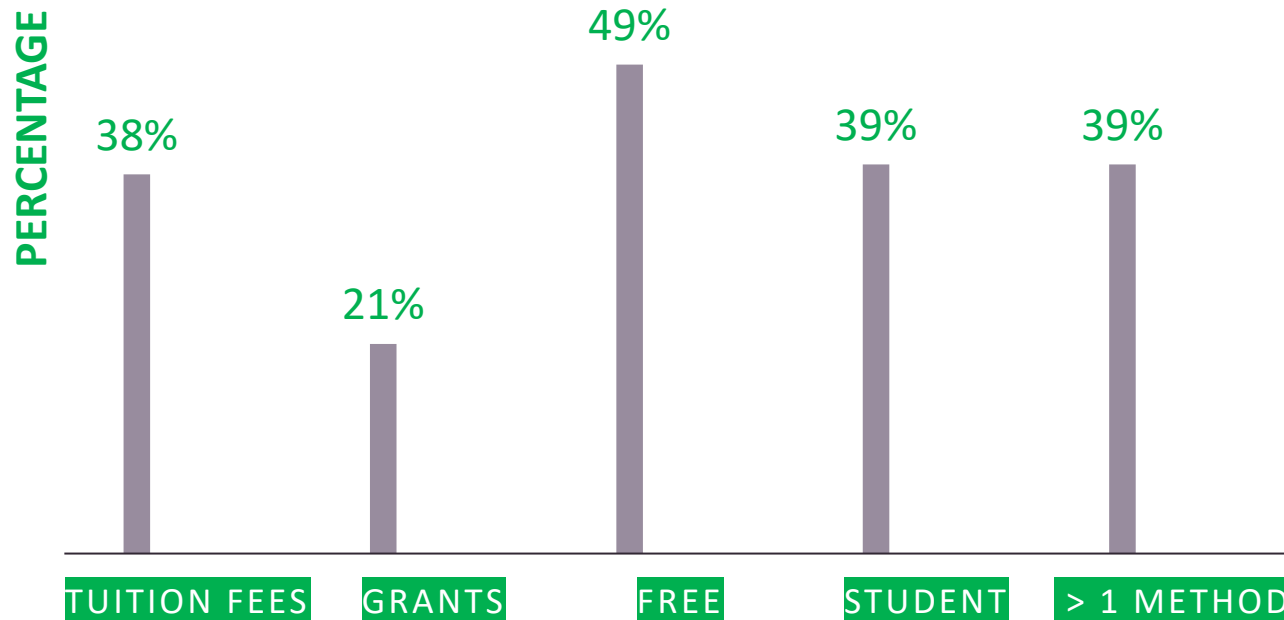
#	Answer	%	n
1	Screen-based Simulations	30	99
2	Serious Games	18	58
3	Virtual Patients	25	81
4	Virtual Environments	11	37
5	Virtual Reality Simulations	5	17
7	Other	4	12
8	No virtual simulation used to date	8	27

What clinical practice areas are targeted?

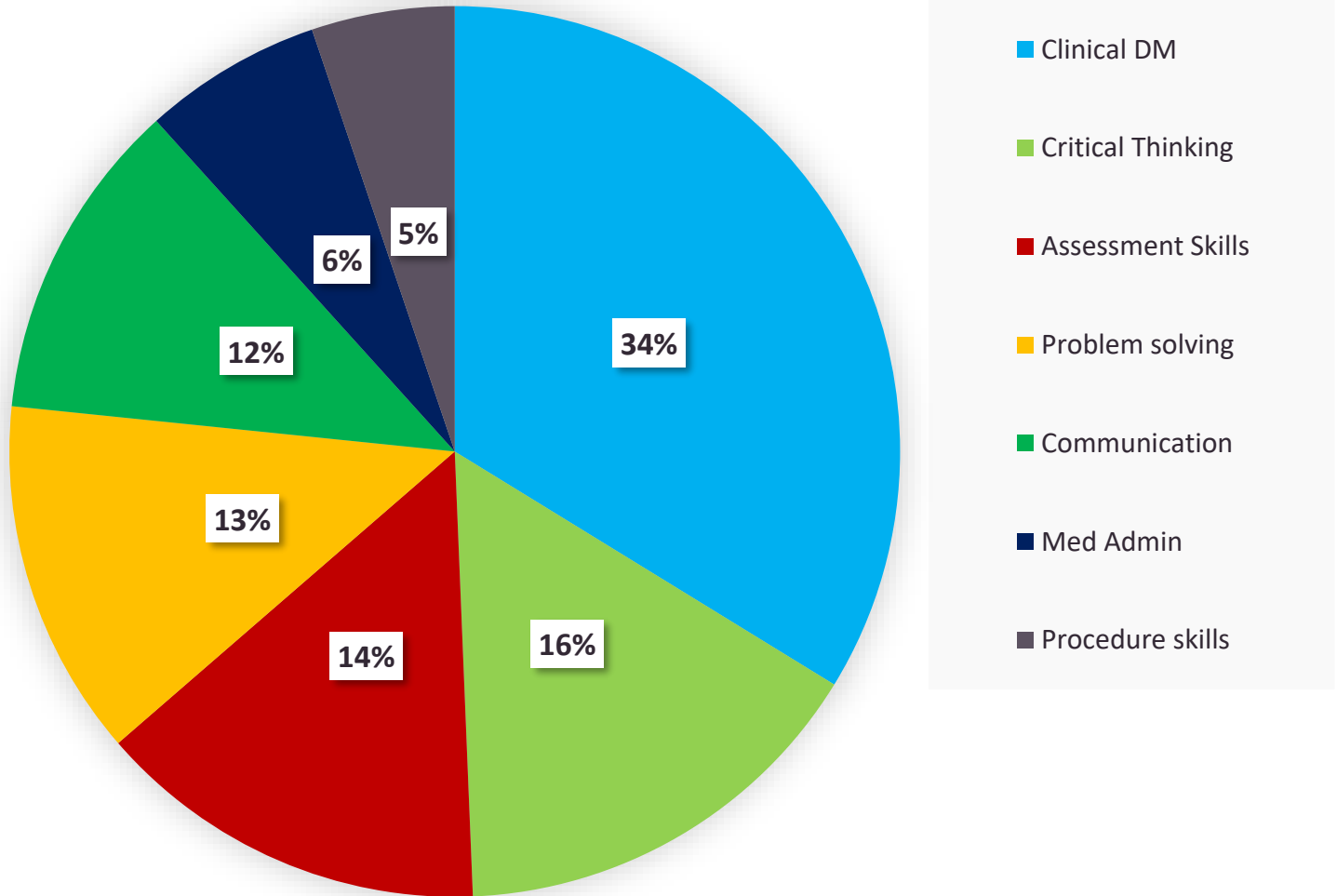
- **59%** of respondents reported acute care
- Other areas included
 - Pediatrics **37%**
 - Mental health **35%**
 - Maternity **35%**
 - Community Health **33%**
 - Gerontology **27%**
 - Critical Care/Primary Care **19%**

- **51%** used in Clinical Courses vs **34%** in Theory Courses
- Reasons:
 - **34%** learning activity
 - **34%** preparation for clinical practice
 - **24%** remediation

WHO PAYS?



I have used virtual simulations to foster the development of:



How do you prepare for and assess students in virtual simulation?

- **80%** of respondents report using at least one type of pre-briefing activity (e.g., required reading, orientation, learning outcomes)
- **24%** of respondents report a debriefing session while **< 20 %** held a group discussion after virtual simulation

BENEFITS & CHALLENGES OF USING VIRTUAL SIMULATION

What are some benefits and challenges to using virtual simulation in your program?

Benefits

- **Increase knowledge**
- **Judgement/critical thinking**
- **Safe space**
- High risk/low occurrence
- Consistency
- Repetition/mastery
- Supplement clinical time

Challenges

- **Cost**
- **Workload**
- **Lack of faculty development**
- Resistance
- Internet access
- No real patient elements
- Task focused
- Lack of faculty development
- Difficult to select

COVID-19 EFFECTS

Use of Virtual Simulation d/t COVID-19

- **73%** of Nursing Schools report that the number of virtual simulations being used are increasing
- **74%** of respondent's report that virtual simulations are being introduced in areas where they were not previously used

- **70%** report using virtual simulation to replace clinical hours in **Baccalaureate program(s)**
- **24%** used virtual simulation to replace clinical hours in its **Nurse Practitioner programs** as a result of COVID-19.
- **40%** unsure if virtual simulation could be use to replace clinical

- **91%** wanted to be more knowledgeable in implementation
- **88%** more information on best practices (prebriefing & debriefing)
- **80%** funds to support virtual simulation
- **78%** wanted more technical support

THANK YOU!

Please contact us with any questions:

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