

CONTRAST SAFETY & CONTRAST SIMULATION TRAINING LAB EXTRAVASATION PROJECT

Another safety issue in radiology is the rare but serious **adverse contrast agent** reaction which can be life threatening for our patients. In July 2011, Drs. Nancy Curry, Jeanne Hill, Leonie Gordon and Melissa Picard had an idea to investigate the utility of using the **simulation laboratory** at MUSC to teach the appropriate response to and treatment of intravenous contrast reactions. Dr. Picard spearheaded the successful development and implementation of this project. With the assistance of Dr. Lashonda Soma, a senior radiology resident, multiple scenarios of the more common and of the rare but life-threatening reactions were authored within the Radiology Department. In conjunction with the Simulation Center, these scenarios were programmed for use with the high-fidelity mannequins located there. Every radiology resident spent time during several contrast reactions in a “hands-on” environment. They have just finished the data collection, comparing traditional didactic lectures versus hands-on laboratory simulation of contrast reaction scenarios and are in the first stages of manuscript preparation, intending to submit to the *Journal of the American College of Radiology*. The residents have responded favorably to the laboratory simulations with the general feeling that they are better prepared to respond quickly and appropriately in the recognition and treatment of potentially life threatening contrast reactions.