

Strategies to facilitate debriefing sessions

Phase	Purpose	Strategy	Examples
Reaction/Defusing	Elicit emotions /impact of simulation experience to create a sense of psychological safety. Silence is required to allow the learner to formulate their answers.	Ask a general question to elicit reactions followed by silence while the participants collect their thoughts Accept reactions by asking the participant to elaborate.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Can you tell us how you felt taking care of the patient (name) in that situation?" 2. "How was it for you taking care of Ms. _____ in that situation?" 3. "Go on" 4. "Tell us more"
	Normalize difficult or ambiguous situations. Takes pressure off the active participants who will have heightened emotions.	Requesting feedback from other participants or observers Offering self	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Has anyone been in a similar situation when the best course of action wasn't clear?" 2. "I've found myself in similar situations and found it difficult to decide quickly what the best course of action would be."
	When confusion persists, determine participants understanding of case and provide significant facts.	Open ended questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Tell us more about the confusing parts." 2. "We'd like to hear more about the way you felt in the simulation."
	Re-capping what happened to set the stage for discussing the rationale for what happened in the Analysis/Deepening phase of the debriefing.	Clarify what happened in scenario	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Let's recap what happened in the scenario so that we can then discuss why it happened in the next part of the debriefing."