Web Box 1 Steps of Simulated Patient Training

- Scripts for ‘case scenarios’, case specific content ‘check list’ to capture students’ behavior and performance, feedback forms, rating scales and post-encounter exercises for the students are developed, reviewed and revised by experts.
- SP is selected based on case to be portrayed (age preferably within two years of required role, gender, built, weight etc) and skills to be taught or assessed.
- Recruited SP is given a case scenario, checklist and instructions beforehand to practice the role.
- First training session – SP reviews the script, patient’s attributes and do repetitive rehearsals; trainer demonstrates how to listen and analyze the questions asked by students. They are instructed and trained how to –
  - respond, both verbally and non-verbally.
  - provide relevant information about symptoms of their illness only in response to questions asked by student without adding unnecessary explanations.
  - observe whether students have performed physical examination correctly or not, how to react, identify the gaps and give corrective feedback.
  - reflect on the overall experience with the student’s interaction after the encounter is over.
- Second training session – SP does repeated rehearsal with mock students, fills case specific content checklists, scores and feedback. These encounters are video recorded and SP’s filled checklists are collected and stored.
- These video recorded ‘encounters’ between SP and mock students are reviewed by another scorer (SP trainer or faculty member) who gives scores / rating and provides feedback to the SP on how to improvise the act.
- The ‘Act’ is finalized only after agreement between the ratings of SP and second scorer is reached; till then SP continues to practice with mock students.