

Debrief Tool for Nurse Faculty
A Checklist to Guide Best Practice

General Preparation	
	Simulation Environment: realistic- participants wear scrubs, manikin staging, setting up props. The simulator and environment should match reality as closely as possible.
	Debriefing Environment: comfortable, intimate setting with seating arranged to facilitate conversation
	Debrief Timing: 2-3 times longer than simulation. Add extra time for video playback (optional)
Pre-brief	
	Explain: purpose of simulation and learning objectives. As the facilitator, know what you expect before you begin.
	Confidentiality and Trust: explain importance of privacy and respectful behaviors towards each other
	Describe: debriefing process, roles, and expectations of students to perform their best, acknowledging that mistakes may be made
	Orientation: to the environment, equipment, and human patient simulator. Demonstrate appropriate use of equipment and/ or simulator if needed. Discuss treating the scenario as real.
	Background: scenario, report, and explain participant roles in scenario
	Questions: provide an opportunity for participants to ask questions before beginning simulation
	Time: give learners time to develop a plan after they receive the scenario/ report
Simulation	
	Focus: on learning objectives/ expected outcomes
	Knowledge Level: ensure scenario, objectives, and expectations are at participant level
	Learner Needs: provide cues during scenario to guide learning & meet expected outcomes
Debriefing	
	Orientation: reinforce debriefing process, roles, expectation of student engagement. The facilitator guides the discussion and the participants do the majority of the talking.
	Learning Objectives: review and reinforce throughout the session
	Reactions: seek out immediate reactions and emotions to foster reflective learning
	Recap: scenario events through group discussion. Ensure group understanding of scenario. Everyone should be on same page before moving forward.
	Reflection: examine the experience and discuss the thinking processes that occurred during the simulation. Ensure learners are aware of the meaning and implications of their actions.
	Feedback: discuss strengths, challenges, and performance gaps. Explore learner thinking. Investigate assumptions and use open ended questions. Discuss observations and judgments.
	Integration: review objectives learned and relate to a frame or model the student is familiar with such as the nursing process or concept mapping. Link to “real world” nursing. Emphasize the value of the educational content and its application to nursing practice.
	Assimilation: identify knowledge, skills, and attitudes. Investigate new plans for future experiences.
	Summary: Brief review of topics and solutions discussed. Take-away points.