

# emrU: enhancing education, supplementing simulation

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*emrU newsletter, August 2014, by [Nick May](#)*

It is the start of a new academic year and it is an exciting time for the emrU project. Following last month's successful system upgrade, we are working hard to grant all new students, faculty and staff access to emrU and provide training and user support.

## **emrU: expanding**

emrU continues to expand – we are increasing our integration with the Carver College of Medicine, College of Nursing, and College of Pharmacy curricula (read about existing integrations [in past newsletters](#)) this fall. At the same time, we are working with UI Health Care's *Heart and Vascular Center* and *Pediatric Intensive Care Unit* (PICU) to bring a high-fidelity electronic medical record to staff training simulations.

## **emrU & IPE: the continuing mission**

We are working with the [Interprofessional Education initiative](#) (IPE) to continue to integrate emrU into collaborative, team-based healthcare education. For those unfamiliar with Interprofessional Education, the Summer 2014 edition of [Medicine Iowa](#) features an article about it entitled [Collective Wisdom](#).

This year, in partnership with the Interprofessional Education initiative and the Carver College of Medicine, we are bringing emrU to Speech Communication students and Physician Assistant students, respectively, for the first time. This brings the number of health science professions using emrU to eight!

These include: The Carver College of Medicine: Doctor of Medicine program, Doctor of Physical Therapy program, Physician Assistant Studies & Services program; The College of Dentistry, Doctor of Dental Surgery; The College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Master of Arts in Speech-Language Pathology; The College of Nursing, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; The College of Pharmacy, Doctor of Pharmacy program; The College of Public Health, Master of Health Administration program.

## **EMRU: behind the scenes**

We work hard to keep the EMRU Epic environment up-to-date. We use two different kinds of upgrades to accomplish this – *synchronization* and *new version upgrades*.

Last month, as noted earlier, we synchronized the EMRU Epic environment with the configuration of UI Health Care's Epic environment (used daily for patient care) to maintain the high level of fidelity that emrU offers. During this process, we also integrated refinements and new software features activated by UI Health Care into emrU. This is an annual process, with the next synchronization tentatively scheduled for July 2015.

Next spring – tentatively scheduled for May 2015 – we will upgrade EMRU to Epic 2014 – the most recent version of the Epic software that runs emrU. UI Health Care will also upgrade to Epic 2014, bringing new features, additional functionality, and refinements to the clinical enterprise.