

# National Geographic Science films at Hartford Hospital



National Geographic photographers recently videotaped (above) a simulated trauma setting in Hartford Hospital's Simulation Center. As a trauma team performed under a realistic emergency department setting, Simulation Center Director Stephen Donahue (seated at console at left) controlled the "SimMan" mannequin's vital signs under the direction of Lenworth Jacobs, MD, director of the hospital's Emergency Medicine Trauma Program.

As the trauma teams worked diligently on the "patient," National Geographic photographers and sound staff filmed all aspects of the exercise for use in an upcoming production.

The team originally contacted Hartford Hospital to film a recreation of a reported out-of-body experience during a cardiac procedure some years ago. "We came to Hartford Hospital's Simulation Center to see how medical staff train to deal with life and death situations - in this case, working on realistic mannequins in mock scenarios," said Kendra Gahagan, documentary producer.

"The filming was for a documentary we're producing for National Geographic Television looking into the science of life and death." When the National Geographic team learned of the Simulation Center, the unique site and medical training program grabbed their interest. During their two-day filming at Hartford Hospital, they also videotaped a simulated cardiac case and a simulated infant trauma case, as well a child case. "We were very impressed by the Simulation Center," said Ms. Gahagan. "Every hospital should be so lucky to have such a high-tech, ultra-realistic center in which to train medical staff in life and death situations so they're better prepared to work on real patients."

There is no indication to date when any of the simulated procedures will be aired on the National Geographic network, but will be an episode on a future National Geographic Explorer series, shown on Wednesdays..

