

S. Hygum Sørensen<sup>1</sup>; D. Ludvigsen<sup>1</sup>; M. Vad Mortensen<sup>1</sup>; A. G. Nørgaard Kyndi<sup>1</sup>; H. Nielsen<sup>2</sup>; U. Kloster<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Hospital Pharmacy Central Denmark Region, Denmark

<sup>2</sup> NIDO | Centre for Research and Education, Gødstrup Hospital, Denmark

<sup>3</sup> Department of Medicine, Gødstrup Hospital, Denmark

# Using Virtual reality to introduce newly hired nurses

## What was done?

Virtual Reality (VR) technology was used for introduction of newly hired nurses to medicine rooms at the hospital.

Newly hired nurses participate in a four hour introduction to the concept of medicine at Gødstrup Hospital, Denmark. The introduction is conducted by an interdisciplinary team of a clinical pharmacist, a pharmaconomist and an experienced nurse. The introduction is conducted in collaboration with the Centre for Research and Education (NIDO) once a month. This ensures that newly hired nurses are receiving the same, relevant introduction when needed.

Introduction to medicine rooms is part of the training for nurses in introductory positions. Using VR newly hired nurses are given a different and exciting introduction to medicine rooms.

## Why was it done?

The concept of medicine at Gødstrup Hospital is based on Patient involvement in the medicine process. Consequently, the patients bring their own medicine, which is stored in the patient's room, and additional medicine is supplied in original packages. Medicine dispensing is performed in the patient's room to allow patient participation. The medicine rooms at the hospital are build quite small, because the majority of the medicine is with the patient, but it also makes medicine rooms unsuited for on-site training of new nurses.

## How was it done?

In collaboration with the simulation unit at NIDO we made a VR-video to enable up to 20 new nurses to watch the same introduction at the same time. Hospital Pharmacy staff is featured in the VR recording and guides viewers to specific parts of the medicine room, explaining important topics such as waste disposal, hygiene and anatomical therapeutic chemical (ATC) groups.



## What has been achieved?

Positive feedback:

- "It was significantly easier to deal with as a newbie"
- "It was very visual as being there in reality"
- "There was time to learn in a calm environment"
- "It worked fine as a lesson"
- "It is a nice change from backboard teaching."

## What next?

The monthly introductions continues and further collaboration with NIDO will result in lessons on topics such as pharmaceutical formulations and drug calculations. Perhaps VR will be included in this too.

