

## About STRIDE Simulation:

Inclusion of underrepresented and vulnerable populations in clinical research is critical to addressing health disparities<sup>1,2</sup>. Specific groups may be reluctant to enroll in research studies for a number of reasons including historical or contemporary mistreatment in the healthcare system and the unconscious bias of health care professionals<sup>3</sup>. Interactions with research assistants (RA) can represent an early entry point for patients into the healthcare system and clinical research opportunities. Conducting informed consent discussions with sensitivity to cultural diversity may improve engagement of populations underrepresented in clinical research and ultimately population health<sup>4</sup>.

**STRIDE** (Strengthening Translational Research in Diverse Enrollment) is a multi-institutional NIH-funded initiative which combines econsent, storytelling, pilot testing and simulation with the goal of increasing diversity of enrollment in clinical research. STRIDE engaged community investigators (CIs) in the design and implementation of a simulation-based workshop to build RA capacity to recognize and respond to unconscious bias during informed consent interactions and enhance respectful, culturally informed research participant engagement. This website focuses on the Simulation component of STRIDE. For information about the broader study please see: <https://www.nia.nih.gov/research/alzheimers-dementia-outreach-recruitment-engagement-resources/strengthening-translational>

Our model utilizes proven methods of community-based participatory research and simulation-assisted education<sup>5,6</sup>. Over the course of 24 months, the STRIDE simulation team 1) leveraged a pilot project, applied lessons learned and worked with CIs and partners to review and revise instructional methods and materials; 2) conducted three onsite workshops and one remote workshop with the University of Alabama Birmingham, Vanderbilt University and the University of Massachusetts Medical School; 4) considered revisions to support model sustainability; and 5) worked towards dissemination.

The STRIDE simulation initiative engages CIs, standardized patients (SPs), small group and fishbowl debriefing facilitators and simulation center event managers in hands-on experiential learning and deliberate practice. The workshop uses small group discussions and trigger videos to enhance learning. RAs engage in simulated informed consent interactions with SPs and are evaluated utilizing a standardized performance checklist. Targeted feedback and discussion in the fishbowl setting leads to deliberate practice and shared learning.

Participants reported appreciation for the overall quality of the training, increased understanding about unconscious bias and increased confidence using culturally sensitive empathetic communication techniques during informed consent and in other situations. They were enthusiastic about the value and need to continue this training.

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