

**ΜΕΤΑΠΤΥΧΙΑΚΟ ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΣΠΟΥΔΩΝ:
“ΕΛΑΧΙΣΤΑ ΕΠΕΜΒΑΤΙΚΗ ΧΕΙΡΟΥΡΓΙΚΗ, ΡΟΜΠΟΤΙΚΗ
ΧΕΙΡΟΥΡΓΙΚΗ ΚΑΙ ΤΗΛΕΧΕΙΡΟΥΡΓΙΚΗ”**

**ΕΘΝΙΚΟ ΚΑΙ ΚΑΠΟΔΙΣΤΡΙΑΚΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ
ΙΑΤΡΙΚΗ ΣΧΟΛΗ**

ΔΙΠΛΩΜΑΤΙΚΗ ΕΡΓΑΣΙΑ

**DIFFERENT FORMS OF LAPAROSCOPIC TRAINING:
REVIEW AND COMPARISON**

ΒΑΛΛΑΣ ΧΡΥΣΟΣΤΟΜΟΣ

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Του Μεταπτυχιακού Φοιτητή Χρυσόστομου Βαλλά

Εξεταστική Επιτροπή

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Η Τριμελής Εξεταστική Επιτροπή η οποία ορίσθηκε από την ΓΣΕΣ της Ιατρικής Σχολής του Παν. Αθηνών Συνεδρίαση της^{ης} 20.... για την αξιολόγηση και εξέταση του υποψηφίου κ. Χρυσόστομου Βαλλά, συνεδρίασε σήμερα .../.../....

Η Επιτροπή **διαπίστωσε** ότι η Διπλωματική Εργασία του Κ. Χρυσόστομου Βαλλά με τίτλο: DIFFERENT FORMS OF LAPAROSCOPIC TRAINING: REVIEW AND COMPARISON , είναι πρωτότυπη, επιστημονικά και τεχνικά άρτια και η βιβλιογραφική πληροφορία ολοκληρωμένη και εμπειριστατωμένη.

Η εξεταστική επιτροπή αφού έλαβε υπ' όψιν το περιεχόμενο της εργασίας και τη συμβολή της στην επιστήμη, με ψήφους προτείνει την απονομή του Μεταπτυχιακού Διπλώματος Ειδίκευσης (Master's Degree), στον παραπάνω Μεταπτυχιακό Φοιτητή.

Στην ψηφοφορία για την βαθμολογία ο υποψήφιος έλαβε για τον βαθμό «ΑΡΙΣΤΑ» ψήφους, για τον βαθμό «ΛΙΑΝ ΚΑΛΩΣ» ψήφους, και για τον βαθμό «ΚΑΛΩΣ» ψήφους Κατά συνέπεια, απονέμεται ο βαθμός «.....».

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Στη γυναίκα μου Χάιδω

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Chapter 1

1. Introduction

Laparoscopic surgery has been accepted as the main treatment approach for many various pathologies, because of its known advantages over open procedures. However, performing laparoscopic procedures demands very specific capabilities of the surgeon, which can only be gained through extensive training.^{1,2}

1. 1 Surgical simulation

Surgical training consists of developing cognitive, clinical and technical skills, with the latter traditionally acquired through mentoring in the operating room (OR).³ Surgical simulation offers the opportunity for surgical trainees to practice surgical skills before entering the OR and allows for detailed feedback and objective assessment of performance. The trainees actions can be analyzed, errors identified and corrected and performance scored under standardized conditions. To establish whether there is benefit in using simulated environments to teach surgical skills, it must be shown that the skills acquired through simulation-based training can positively transfer to clinical practice.

There is enormous potential to address patient safety, risk management concerns, OR management and work hours requirements with more efficient and effective training methods.

Over the last few decades laparoscopic procedures have evolved from diagnostic laparoscopy⁴ to advanced, more complex procedures. These more advanced procedures require highly developed psychomotor skills. The surgeon's anatomic awareness must be developed in concert with the ability to safely achieve, exposure and identify and control important structures. To assist with the critical components of many advanced operations, specialized equipment is available and commonly used. These instruments require a great deal of expertise in order to be used effectively and safely.⁵

1. 2 Types of surgical simulation

Surgical simulation involves the use of objects, devices, electronic and/or mechanical surgical simulators, cadavers, animals and animal organs to reproduce or represent, under test conditions, situations that are likely to occur in the actual operative setting.

The different forms of simulation are summarized below :

Synthetic models and box trainers

Physical simulators, such as box trainers, do not directly measure movements or skills, and require a trained observer to determine performance. Their relatively low acquisition cost, high availability and easy portability make this type of simulator the most widely available and validated surgical training system.

Live animal models

Anaesthetized, live animals provide a high-fidelity, non-patient environment that allows trainees to develop the psychomotor and cognitive skills required for the operative setting. The numbers of animals needed as well as cultural, financial and ethical issues limit their use.

Cadaveric models

The limited supply of cadavers, coupled with concerns regarding disease transmission from human tissues and fluids, and ethical and cultural issues, limit this mode of training.

Ex vivo animal tissue models

Using anatomic sections or tissues from euthanased animals (ex vivo) is another form of simulation in surgical skills training. Dedicated 'wet rooms' within skills centres are mandatory if this training model is to be employed.

Virtual reality (computer-based) models

Virtual reality (VR) surgical simulators use computer-generated instruments through specially designed interfaces to manipulate computer-generated objects. An attractive feature of VR surgical simulators is that they can provide objective and repeated measurements, such as the time taken to complete a task, the errors made in the process and also the efficiency with which the movements were made in the accomplishment of the task. These metrics present the opportunity for the assessment of competency without the need for an observer to be present.

Most surgical VR systems function as part-task trainers that aim to increase surgeon skill by shaping behaviours required for performing surgery. Realistic tactile sensations (i.e. haptics) in the use of surgical instruments is imperfect in some VR simulators. Although work is progressing to improve realistic haptics in VR trainers, this development is expensive.

VR technology has developed software that attempts to replicate skills required for entire minimally invasive surgery procedures, but this provides limited practice in decision-making and relatively poor haptic feedback.

Augmented reality simulators

Augmented reality (AR) combines physical reality (such as a box trainer) and VR into one system. Haptic feedback is maintained, using original laparoscopic instruments and tactile tasks, and objective measures of performance are generated.⁶

Chapter 2

Objectives

The objectives of this review are to synthesise the current literature on the effectiveness of different forms in laparoscopic training and evaluate the impact on the development of technical competence.

Methods

This research project was conducted as a literature review, therefore formal ethical approval was not required. The following databases were searched, chosen to provide the broadest range of research within the fields of healthcare and educational research: Pubmed, Medline and the Cochrane Library.

These databases were searched using the following keywords combinations: surgical AND training, “virtual reality”, “augmented reality” and “surgical simulation”, along with publication types (systematic review, meta-analysis) to identify systematic reviews published in English from 2003 to 2013 that synthesized research involving any health profession trainees preparing to treat adult human patients.

Were excluded:

- Narrative reviews.
- Reviews focused on technical development of simulation systems.
- Simulation training aimed at pediatric clinicians.
- Systematic reviews focused on uses of simulation other than training.
- Articles already included in systematic reviews.
- Primary studies where simulation was not the intervention or independent variable.

All studies meeting the final inclusion criteria were initially classified by the type of surgical simulation technique used, in order to categorise the available types of surgical simulation.

The included studies were categorized initially by the non-simulation-based training method. Studies were then categorized by intervention and then by the level of evidence. Once grouped, studies were then further analyzed following a system based on guidelines for educational studies involving simulators produced by the BEME Collaboration and the TAP.^{7,8}

Results

Seven independent systematic reviews and one review, with one hundred twenty RCTs and two hundred fifty studies, were qualified for full analysis and are outlined in Figure 1.

These studies fell across five main categories of surgical simulation technique (cadaver, model, computer, video and augmented reality) and compared with no training and standard training, as well as with each other.

Figure 1: Summary of systematic reviews for simulation training

Citation	Publication years covered/ number of RCTs / studies included	Content
Systematic reviews		
Gurusamy (Cochrane; 2009a)	to 2008: 23 RCTs	Virtual reality training for surgical trainees in laparoscopic surgery
Schout (2008)	to 2008: 3 RCTs 45 studies	Simulation training models in urology
ASERNIP-S (2012)	to 2012: 20 RCTs	Transfer of simulation-based skills to the operating room
Sutherland (2006)	to 2005: 30 RCTs	Effectiveness of surgical simulation compared to other methods of surgical training
Lynagh (2007)	to 2006: 44 RCTs	Effectiveness of medical skills laboratories or simulators
Marinopoulos (2007)	to 2006: 9 systematic reviews	Effectiveness of continuing medical education (CME)
Matthew P. Thomas (2013)	to 2013: 32 studies	Effectiveness of surgical simulation on the development of technical competence during surgical training
Review		
Sanne M. B. I. Botden(2008)	to 2008: 4 studies	Developments in augmented reality laparoscopic simulation
Total 120 RCTs and 250 included studies		7 fully systematic reviews

The objective of the systematic review by Gurusamy⁹, was to determine whether VR training can supplement and/or replace conventional laparoscopic surgical training.

Twenty-three trials (mostly with a high risk of bias) involving six hundred twenty two participants were included in this review.

Four trials compared VR training with video training (VT), twelve trials compared VR training with no training, four trials compared VR training with VT, no training and standard training, and three trials compared different forms of VR each other. Participants were divided in those without prior laparoscopic experience and those with limited laparoscopic experience. In the first group VR decreased time to complete a task, increased accuracy and decreased errors compared with no training, also VR group was more accurate than video trained. In the second group VR reduced operating time and error better than standard training.

The objective of the systematic review by Schout¹⁰, was to obtain an overview of training models and their validity in endourology. Three RCTs and forty five studies, compared thirty training models in uretero-endoscopy.

The objective of the systematic review by the update report of the Australian Safety and Efficacy Register of New Interventional Procedures – Surgical (ASERNIP-S)⁶, was to determine whether skills acquired through simulation-based training transfer to the operative setting. A total of twenty RCTs and six hundred twenty nine participants, were included in this review.

Nine RCTs examined performance during laparoscopic procedures in participants who had trained using simulation with those who had not received simulation-based training. These included laparoscopic cholecystectomy^{11,12,13,14}, bilateral tubal ligation¹⁵, salpingectomy¹⁶, Nissen fundoplication¹⁷, diagnostic arthroscopy of the knee¹⁸ and totally extraperitoneal inguinal hernia repair.¹⁹

One RCT compared laparoscopic camera navigation in participants who had trained using simulation with those who had received patient-based training.²⁰

Six RCTs examined performance during endoscopic procedures in participants who had trained using simulation with those who had not received simulation-based training. These included colonoscopy²¹, cystourethroscopy²²,

oesophagogastroduodenoscopy²³, nasolaryngoscopy²⁴, endoscopic sinus surgery²⁵, and transurethral resection of the prostate.²⁶

One RCT compared colonoscopy procedures in participants who had trained using simulation with those who had received patient-based training.²⁷

Two RCTs examined performance of other surgical procedures in participants who had trained using simulation with those who had not received simulation-based training. The RCTs included abdominal fascial closure²⁸, and knowledge, attitude and skills in the operating room.²⁹

One RCT compared performance during cardiac surgery weaning patients from cardiopulmonary bypass in participants who had trained using high-fidelity simulation with those who had received interactive seminar-based education.³⁰

The objective of systematic review by Sutherland³¹, was to evaluate the effectiveness of surgical simulation compared with other methods of surgical training. Thirty RCTs with seven hundred sixty participants were able to be included.

Nine studies compared computer simulation versus no training.^{32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40} Those trained on computer simulators performed better than those who received no training at all.

Five studies compared computer simulation versus standard training.^{41,42,36,43,44} The computer simulation versus standard training comparisons varied.

Seven studies compared computer simulation versus video simulation.^{45,35,46,47,48,38,41} Computer simulation showed mixed results.

One study compared computer simulation versus physical trainer or model.³⁹ Computer simulation training showed to be superior to training on a physical trainer.

Two studies compared two or more types of computer simulation: MIST-VR.^{49,50} These studies showed mixed results.

Six studies compared video simulation versus no training.^{51,38,52,53,54,35} Video simulation groups did not show consistently better results than groups who did not receive training.

Five studies compared video simulation versus other forms of training.^{55,56,57,58,59} No differences were seen between video box training and other forms of training such as bench models or standard training.

Four studies compared physical or model simulation versus other forms of training, including no training.^{60,39,61,55} Model training showed better results than standard training.

One study compared cadaver training versus standard training.⁶¹ The cadaver trained group received better results than the standard training group, which learned independently from the manuals.

The objective of systematic review by Lynagh⁶², was to evaluate the effectiveness of medical skills laboratories or simulators. In particular, to determine if performance in medical skills laboratories is transferable to actual clinical performance and maintained over time. Forty four RCTs were included in this review.

Thirteen studies compared simulation versus no training. Twelve studies compared simulation versus standard training. Nine studies compared simulation versus video box. Three studies evaluated two simulators. Two studies compared model simulator versus no training. One study compared model versus cadaver and five studies compared model versus standard training.

The objective of systematic review by Marinopoulos⁶³, was to comprehensively and systematically synthesize evidence regarding the effectiveness of CME and differing instructional designs in terms of knowledge, attitudes, skills, practice behavior, and clinical practice outcomes. Nine systematic reviews and one hundred thirty six articles were included in this review.

CME was effective, at least to some degree, in achieving and maintaining the objectives studied, including knowledge (22 of 28 studies), attitudes (22 of 26), skills (12 of 15), practice behavior (61 of 105), and clinical practice outcomes (14 of 33).

The objective of systematic review by Matthew P. Thomas⁶⁴, was to establish the current state of knowledge on the effect of surgical simulation on the development of technical competence during surgical training. Thirty two studies were analyzed, across five main categories of surgical simulation technique.

Nine studies were included that detail the use of bench models and box-trainers; 8 studies were RCTs^{65,52,60,59,54,66,15,67}, with one cohort study.⁶⁸

Fourteen studies analyzed VR training were found. Eleven of these were RCTs^{45,42,34,69,70,71,11,12,72,16,73}, with three cohort studies.^{74,75,72}

Two studies met the inclusion criteria that described the use of an animal model in surgical simulation, with one RCT⁵¹ and one cohort study.⁷⁶

The use of human cadavers (the donation of the human body after death) was described in a total of four studies that met the final inclusion criteria. Only one of these was a RCT⁶¹, the remainder were cohort studies.^{77,78,79}

The objective of the review by Sanne M. B. I. Botden⁸⁰, was to present the current developments in augmented reality (AR) laparoscopic simulation. Four simulators were analyzed in this review.

ProMIS combines the virtual and real worlds in the same system: users learn, practise and measure their proficiency with real instruments on physical and virtual models. It comprises a number of modules designed to develop and evaluate surgical proficiency. Real instruments, trocars and port placement are used on physical tissue.

The computer-enhanced laparoscopic training system (CELTS) is a prototype laparoscopic surgery simulator that uses real instruments, real video display and laparoscopic light sources with synthetic skin and task trays to permit highly realistic practice of basic surgical skills. Since instruments and displays are real, actual suturing can be performed without the need to create software models of suture or needle behaviour, for instance.

The LTS3-e (LTS) is a relatively low-cost augmented reality simulator capable of training and assessment of technical laparoscopic skills of the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES) Fundamentals of Laparoscopy (FLS) program.

The Blue DRAGON (University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA) is a system for acquiring the kinematics and the dynamics of two endoscopic tools along with the visual view of the surgical scene. The assessment of the performance is based on the placement of the instrument and the tool–tissue interaction during the task.

Discussion

The systematic review by Gurusamy⁹, suggests that VR training can supplement standard laparoscopic surgical training of apprenticeship and is at least as effective as video trainer training in supplementing standard laparoscopic training.

On the other hand the systematic review by Schout¹⁰, contains few RCTs and though more validation studies must published to determine which of the training models are most valuable for postgraduate training.

The update report of the ASERNIP-S⁶, demonstrates that simulation-based training, as part of a surgical skills training program and incorporating the achievement of reaching predetermined proficiency levels, results in skills transfer to the operating setting. This review was classified as average for its evidence, because the studies included were of variable quality and did not have comparable simulation-based methods for the same indications.

The systematic review by Sutherland³¹, suggests that computer simulation generally is better than no training, but not superior to standard training or to video simulation. Video simulation did not show consistently superior results to no training. There were not enough data to determine if video simulation is better than standard training or the use of models. Model simulation may be better than standard training and cadavers may be better than models.

The systematic review by Lynagh⁶², suggests that simulator training significantly improved procedural skills versus no or standard training.

The systematic review by Marinopoulos⁶³, suggests VR for surgical skills, because obtains a significant decrease in time to perform tasks and trend to decrease error rate. Also concludes that video training is not superior to standard training or no training and that the evidence for computer versus video training, is insufficient.

The systematic review by Matthew P. Thomas⁶⁴, demonstrates the benefits of surgical simulation in the development of technical competence. Improvements in outcome measures are demonstrated in every study, across all five main simulation categories. Where studies compared the use of different simulation techniques, the evidence suggests that the use of bench models and cadaveric simulation is equivalent⁶¹, as is the use of bench models and live animals.⁵¹ Skills learnt on VR and box trainers were also shown to be transferable between the two techniques, with VR simulation providing a greater improvement in the real operating room.⁴⁵

The transfer of skills between different simulation tools is addressed by a small number of studies, suggesting that skills can be transferred from VR to the human cadaver⁷⁹, and from the box trainer to VR and vice versa.⁴⁵ In addition, in those studies that attempt to demonstrate transfer of skills from the simulated environment to the real patient (13 studies in total), all but one showed simulation to be effective on transfer.

The review by Sanne M. B. I. Botden⁸⁰, suggests that AR is the essential link connecting the virtual with the real world. Virtual information is added to the real world. AR simulation is the combination of physical (real) and virtual reality in one system (Figure 2). This enhancement of physical training in laparoscopic simulation can be accomplished with overlays of anatomical representations or by objective assessment at the end of the performance. A major advantage of the AR laparoscopic simulator over the VR simulator is that it allows the trainee to use the same instruments that are currently used in the operating room. The simulator provides realistic haptic feedback because of the hybrid mannequin environment in which the trainee is working, which is absent in VR systems. This simulator offers a physically realistic training environment that is based on real instruments interacting with real objects.

The physical task is combined with demonstration videos on the screen, and the performance of the trainee is recorded for subsequent replay. Because AR simulators are a learning system on their own, there is no need for an expert laparoscopic surgeon to be on the scene to guide the trainee. Therefore AR simulation is a good way for trainees to practise their laparoscopic skills in their free time.

Both VR and AR systems provide objective measurements of performance, but lack meaningful assessment protocols. However, AR simulators additionally offer realistic haptic feedback. For laparoscopic suturing training, for example, AR is the best choice for a simulation system, as haptic feedback during practice is mandatory for good skills transfer to the trainee.

Figure 2: Properties of the different simulation techniques used in laparoscopic training

Physical Reality (Box trainer)	Augmented Reality	Virtual Reality
<p>Advantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realistic haptic feedback • Cost-effective 	<p>Advantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realistic haptic feedback • Objective assessment of performance • Interactivity 	<p>Advantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective assessment of performance • Interactivity
<p>Disadvantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subjective assessment • Lack of interactivity 	<p>Disadvantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of assessment protocol 	<p>Disadvantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of realistic haptic feedback • Lack of assessment protocol

Conclusions

Five main categories of simulation technique currently used to develop technical competence in surgical training are identified here: cadaver, model, computer, video and augmented reality. On reviewing the available evidence, the benefits of all five of these techniques in improving technical skills can be seen within the simulated environment.

The use of cadaveric simulation is equivalent to the use of VR or box trainers. Due to the scarcity of cadaveric material, and the ethical and moral issues around its use, resources should be directed towards training on VR and box trainers.

Skills learnt on both box trainers and VR are transferable to the real patient, with the evidence suggesting the slight superiority of VR. However, VR equipment is more expensive. Surgical skills curricula should therefore incorporate simulation on box trainers, with VR being used in addition, where resources allow.

Several AR simulators have been developed over the recent years, and they are improving rapidly. The advantage of AR over VR is that they offer realistic haptic feedback, like traditional box trainers, while additionally providing objective assessment of performance. For basic skills, however, VR has previously been proven a valid training method. Augmented reality simulators are a potent new modality of laparoscopic simulator system that should be implemented in current laparoscopic training curricula.

The goal of implementing simulation-based training in surgery is to provide a complementary experience that accelerates the learning curve and enhances patient encounters. Although the literature supports both synthetic and virtual reality training in technical skills acquisition, there are some weaknesses in this body of literature. First, although a large variety of virtual-reality simulators is available on the market, many of the existing studies investigated the earlier virtual reality models. Second, many of the new procedural models lack evidence for validity, which raises concern that the field will be dominated by technology rather than educational principles. Finally, the studies describe disparate interventions, sometimes on the same simulator, making comparisons difficult.

Areas for future research in surgical simulation include the determination of how skills learnt during simulation exercises are retained, the frequency and intensity of simulation that provides the maximum benefit, and further work on the transfer of skills between different simulation techniques. The complex nature of educational interventions must also be recognised by those planning and evaluating surgical simulation research, particularly when designing a “skills curriculum”.

ΠΕΡΙΛΗΨΗ

Σκοπός : Να γίνει σύγκριση και εκτίμηση της αποτελεσματικότητας των διαφόρων μορφών λαπαροσκοπικής εκπαίδευσης.

Μέθοδοι : Πραγματοποιήθηκε ανάλυση εργασιών μέσω αναζητήσεων σε Pubmed, Medline και Cochrane Library, των τελευταίων δέκα ετών. Χρησιμοποιήθηκαν εργασίες οι οποίες τηρούσαν τις κατευθυντήριες οδηγίες του οργανισμού για την ιατρική εκπαίδευση που στηρίζεται στις καλύτερες ενδείξεις (BEME) και του προγράμματος αξιολόγησης τεχνολογιών (TAP).

Αποτελέσματα : Πραγματοποιήθηκε ανάλυση επτά ανεξάρτητων συστηματικών ανασκοπήσεων και μιας ανασκόπησης, που περιείχαν εκατόν είκοσι τυχαιοποιημένες ελεγχόμενες μελέτες (RCTs) και διακόσιες πενήντα εργασίες. Η εκπαίδευση με εξομοιωτές εικονικής πραγματικότητας (VR) φάνηκε να υπερτερεί σε σχέση με καμία εκπαίδευση. Οι εξομοιωτές επαυξημένης πραγματικότητας (AR) αποδείχθηκαν ως το πιο σύγχρονο και με πολλές δυνατότητες σύστημα λαπαροσκοπικών εξομοιωτών, το οποίο παρέχει περισσότερα οφέλη από τους παραδοσιακούς εξομοιωτές λαπαροσκοπικών επεμβάσεων και τους εξομοιωτές εικονικής πραγματικότητας.

Συμπεράσματα : Οι ιατρικοί εξομοιωτές υψηλής πιστότητας και ακρίβειας στην απόδοση, διευκολύνουν και προωθούν την διαδικασία της εκπαίδευσης και της μεταφοράς των ικανοτήτων που ανακτώνται, στην αίθουσα του χειρουργείου. Οι εξομοιωτές επαυξημένης πραγματικότητας θα πρέπει να ενταχθούν στα σύγχρονα προγράμματα λαπαροσκοπικής εκπαίδευσης.

Λέξεις κλειδιά : Σύγκριση · Λαπαροσκοπική εκπαίδευση · Επαυξημένη πραγματικότητα · Εξομοιωτής

ABSTRACT

Objectives : To compare and evaluate the effectiveness of different forms in laparoscopic training.

Methods : Studies were analyzed through searches of Pubmed, Medline and the Cochrane Library over the last ten years. Included studies were identified according to guidelines adapted from a Best Evidence in Medical Education (BEME) and a Technology Assessment Program (TAP) review.

Results : Seven independent systematic reviews and one review, with one hundred twenty randomized controlled trials (RCTs) and two hundred fifty studies, were able to be included. Virtual reality (VR) training for laparoscopic procedures is better than no training. Augmented reality (AR) simulators are a potent new modality laparoscopic simulator system, that have better benefits from the traditional box trainers and the VR simulators.

Conclusion : High – fidelity medical simulations are educationally effective and results in skills transfer to the operating setting. AR simulators should be implemented in current laparoscopic training.

Keywords : Comparison · Laparoscopic training · Augmented reality · Simulator

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