NTU showcases medical education for future doctors

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Nanyang Technological University (NTU) recently showcased its simulation technology for medical education to potential medical students from across Singapore.

Around 600 students from junior colleges and polytechnics were granted the opportunity to see what goes on behind the closed doors of an operating theatre. Highlights of the event included a live presentation of trauma surgery by real surgeons and realistic human organ props.

The simulated surgery will form part of the medical training at the NTU’s new Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, established in collaboration with the Imperial College of London, which will soon start selecting students for its first academic session beginning next year.

The demonstration was accompanied by a running commentary by Professor Roger Kneebone from Imperial College London, one of the pioneers of simulation technology in medical education globally and inventor of the “igloo”, a low-cost inflatable operation theatre used to simulate the real setting.

At the six experiential learning booths set up by the NTU, the students were able to sample the cutting-edge simulation training including augmented reality technology, view and feel life-like models of gashes and wounds, and learn how to keep a patient calm while a minor surgery is underway.

“Taking cognizance of changes in the world of medicine, we are changing the learning experience for the doctors of tomorrow using all the new media and latest technological innovations, so they are equipped to cope with it,” said Professor Martyn Partridge, senior vice-dean of the school.

Rather than focusing on classrooms and lectures, the school will emphasize on an immersive and collaborative learning experience from day one so that the students can learn by watching and doing.