TITLE: Overcoming the Barriers: Getting Simulation Used in Healthcare

AUTHOR: Sally Brailsford, School of Management, University of Southampton

ABSTRACT:

Despite a vast academic literature, Operations Research modeling in general, and simulation in particular, has failed to become embedded and widely implemented as a practical management tool within most healthcare organizations. The reasons for this remain unclear, but the overwhelming majority of published papers are either purely theoretical or report individual one-off success stories. In this talk I shall present some personal success stories from 25 years of working in this field, and shall explore the factors influencing the successful adoption of simulation models within healthcare organisations.

SHORT BIO:

Sally is Professor of Management Science at the University of Southampton. She obtained a BSc in Mathematics from Kings College London, and then worked as a nurse in the UK National Health Service before obtaining an MSc and then a PhD in Operational Research from Southampton. Her research is in the area of healthcare simulation modelling: to evaluate treatments and screening programmes, or to redesign and improve service delivery. Sally has worked for over 25 years in many different disease fields including diabetes, cancer, mental health and HIV/AIDS, in addition to emergency care and end-of-life care. She is a Vice-President of EURO, the Association of European OR Societies, and chair of the EURO Working Group on OR Applied to Health Services (ORAHS). She is one of the Editors-in-Chief of the UK OR Society’s new journal Health Systems and is on the editorial boards of Health Care Management Science, the Journal of Simulation and Operations Research for Health Care. She has twice won the UK OR Society’s Goodeve Medal, in 2004 for modelling emergency healthcare services in Nottingham, and in 2006 for modelling chlamydia infection.