

## Melissa Mitchell, RN, BSN, BCEN

*Clinical Educator, Senior Clinical Manager, Banner Health*



Melissa currently holds the position of Senior Clinical Manager in the Emergency Department at Banner Thunderbird Medical Center. Melissa was the Clinical Educator for Banner Baywood Medical Center and coordinated the Banner Simulation Emergency Department Academy. The Banner Simulation Center opened this year in a state of the art facility where Emergency Nurses are now trained using simulation in an Emergency Room setting.

The Banner Simulation Medical Center is a “virtual hospital” that Banner Health uses to help train physicians and nurses before they treat actual patients. The Banner Simulation Medical Center is one of the largest centers of its kind in the world and will elevate medical education efforts in Arizona to new levels. With computerized mannequins as patients, the 55,000-square-foot facility in downtown Mesa, Arizona has many of the features found in any Banner Health hospital:

- Intensive care unit
- Emergency department
- Two operating rooms with virtual-operation capabilities
- Neonatal care center
- Eight-bed recovery wing

Melissa Mitchell received her BSN from Arizona State University and is a Board Certified Emergency Nurse. She is currently enrolled in her Master program.

Melissa has been the lead for developing curriculum for emergency based simulation scenarios for Banner system academy. She has worked with Hi and low fidelity laerdal simulation mannequins. She has helped develop scenarios that are Part clinical immersion, part intense medical theater, each scenario in the ED simulation center resembles a different situation on which a new medical drama regularly unfolds. The mannequins play the starring role while the facility's staff fill in as physicians, lab techs, supervisors and family members. Although the actors and circumstances are fake, the opportunity to save lives is very real.

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