Reasons for being simulated patients in Faculty of Medicine, 
Prince of Songkla University

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Introduction: Learning through simulated patient has been proven useful method for medical student. Well-trained simulated patient is the most important factor for this learning process.

Purpose: To study the common reasons for being a simulated patient in our Faculty.

Method: This is was a qualitative study. Twenty simulated patients were interviewed using by two observers regarding the main reasons for being simulated patient in our Faculty.

Results: The mean age of simulated patients was 43 year. Most simulated patient’s educational level was lower than bachelor degree, with mean income between 3,000-15,000 baht/month. The most common reason for being simulated patient in our Faculty was income. While, the privilege for hospital service was the second most common reason. However, most simulated patient did not want any kinds of recognition or certificate from the Faculty.

Conclusions: Income is the most common reason for being simulated patient in our Faculty. Appropriate payment for simulated patient would be the most important incentive to include volunteer to be simulated patient.
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