Hartford Hospital was home to Connecticut’s first “simulation center” which has grown into CESI, the centerpiece of Hartford Hospital’s pioneering vision to revamp the medical educational system. CESI is a regional and national training destination. As the second largest surgical center in New England and the Northeast’s largest robotic surgery center, Hartford Hospital continues to be a hub for medical training. CESI features exact replicas of an operating room, intensive care unit, delivery room and trauma room. It has the same equipment as the hospital, including two da Vinci robots and two robotic simulators designed especially for training purposes.

CESI is a 20,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art training facility where physicians and other health care professionals can learn to use the newest technology, perform the most sophisticated medical and surgical procedures and perfect their skills in a safe, simulated environment, so they’re ready to apply those skills expertly in treating patients.

CESI offers a full range of training opportunities:

**Education and simulation**
- Through the use of life-like, fully responsive computerized manikins, physicians and other health care professionals can participate in a wide variety of clinical scenarios in a safe environment. The center features five individual rooms replicating Labor & Delivery, Resuscitation, Intensive Care, ED/Trauma and OR/Anesthesia all outfitted with the same equipment as the hospital.

**Task training and minimally invasive surgery**
- Task trainers and virtual reality trainers replicate aspects of the human body that provide key elements of a task or skill that needs to be learned.
- There are also three Sonosite M Series and one SiteRite 6 ultrasound machines available for use with a variety of ultrasonoundable task trainers.
- Minimally invasive surgery provides the tools to perfect the fundamentals of laparoscopic surgery (FLS) with the use of FLS boxes as well as a virtual reality trainer that includes Women’s Health, Urology, Colorectal and surgery procedures.

**Robotic surgery**
- There is a well rounded complement of robotic systems and simulators. The systems include two da Vinci robots (Si and S-HD), three da Vinci robotic simulators and one Sensei robotic simulator.
- The Center also offers Robotic Training Programs (VIP, Epicenter) in partnership with Intuitive Surgical and Hansen Medical.
- CESI offers Hi-def broadcasting from a robotic OR for case observation.
Hartford Hospital was founded in 1854 after an explosion at a factory injured dozens of workers, many of them critically. At the time, there was no central place to care for the injured. But that would soon change. The accident would galvanize the community, paving the way for Hartford Hospital, the first general acute care hospital to be built in the area.

More than 150 years later, Hartford Hospital has built on that rich history and solid foundation. It is now one of the largest teaching hospitals and tertiary care centers in all of New England, with more top-ranked physicians than any other area hospital. Hartford Hospital is at the center of robust clinical research, funded by annual grants of more than $14 million. Of the 19 hospitals in the Hartford, Connecticut metropolitan area, Hartford Hospital was ranked #1 in U.S. News & Word Report’s latest regional ranking.

Hartford Hospital brought robotic surgery to Connecticut. Years later, the hospital has become New England’s second busiest surgical practice, second only to Massachusetts General. Hartford Hospital is ranked among the top 10 centers in the country for experience in robotic surgery and performs more minimally invasive surgery than any hospital in the region.

Hartford Hospital houses the area’s only Level 1 Trauma Center. It owns and operates LIFE STAR, the state’s critical care helicopter service which has been saving lives since 1985. In those years, the LIFE STAR team has transported more than 20,000 patients.

Hartford Hospital has been training physicians for 130 years, primarily in collaboration with the University of Connecticut School of Medicine, and is a major teaching site for nurses and allied health professionals. CESI is taking education to a new level by training health care professionals in simulated, life-like environments.