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JOHN NAISH BREAKTHROUGHS, TIPS AND TRENDS

Second Life-saver

COULD you save your first life on *Second Life*? Paramedic students at St George's, University of London, are learning to give emergency treatment in cyberspace, using the virtual-world game.

Each week the students encounter a new emergency, such as a collapsed woman in the street, and practise giving them drugs, checking their pulses and using emergency resuscitation equipment.

The students work in groups which, Emily Conradi, the project co-ordinator, explains, is increasingly hard to organise in real life.

"Students spend a lot of time on work placements, so it can be hard for them to meet each other and their tutors," she says. "The advantage of *Second Life* is that it feels more real."



The red block on the newspaper layout, in the lower right corner indicates the placement of the article.