

CLINICAL "SNIPPETS"

Tuition of emergency medical dispatchers in the recognition of agonal respiration increases the use of telephone assisted CPR.

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Resuscitation. 2009 Jul 4. [Epub ahead of print]

Overview: The aim of this investigation was to study if tuition of Emergency Medical Dispatchers (EMDs) can improve their ability to identify agonal respiration in out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA) to allow for more frequent offers of Telephone guided CPR.

Conclusions: Teaching EMDs to understand and recognize bystander descriptions of agonal respiration in patients with OHCA has resulted in a significant increase in offers of T-CPR in these situations.