

## CLINICAL "SNIPPETS"

### **A comparison between over-the-head and standard cardiopulmonary resuscitation performed by two rescuers: a simulation study.**

Maisch S, Issleib M, Kuhls B, Mueller J, Horlacher T, Goetz AE, Schmidt GN.  
Department of Anaesthesiology, Universitaetsklinikum Hamburg-Eppendorf, Germany.

J Emerg Med. 2009 Jun 3. [Epub ahead of print]

**Overview:** In cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) of a patient with an unsecured airway performed by two health care professionals, two methods are possible: 1) Standard CPR according to the guidelines, with one rescuer performing chest compressions from the side and the other rescuer performing ventilations from over the head of the patient. Additional tasks (like attaching the electrocardiogram and defibrillator) must be performed by the second rescuer during the time between ventilations. 2) Over-the-head CPR, with one rescuer performing chest compressions and ventilations from over the head and the other rescuer performing additional tasks. Objectives: The aim of this study was to compare the quality of CPR achieved by the two methods.

**Conclusions:** In the case of a two-professional-rescuer CPR scenario, standard CPR enables a quantitatively better resuscitation than over-the-head CPR.