

CLINICAL "SNIPPETS"

Cardiocerebral resuscitation: a better approach to cardiac arrest

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Overview: This review was undertaken to present a new approach to patients with cardiac arrest that improves neurologically normal survival. It is called cardiocerebral resuscitation (CCR), rather than cardiopulmonary resuscitation, as the major goal in cardiac arrest is to resuscitate the heart and the brain. CCR has three components: continuous chest compressions cardiopulmonary resuscitation for bystanders; a different Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) algorithm for Emergency Medical System; and a recently added aggressive post-resuscitation care for resuscitated but comatose patients that includes therapeutic hypothermia and early catheterization/intervention.

Conclusions: CCR improves survival of patients with cardiac arrest.