

CLINICAL "SNIPPETS"

The early minutes of in-hospital cardiac arrest: Shock or CPR? A population based prospective study.

Skogvoll E, Nordseth T.

Scand J Trauma Resusc Emerg Med. 2008 Sep 22;16(1):11

Overview: In the early minutes of cardiac arrest, timing of defibrillation and CPR during the basic life support phase (BLS CPR) is debated. The aim of this study was to provide in-hospital data to investigate the relation between outcome and time from collapse to defibrillation, BLS CPR, and CPR quality.

Conclusion: During the first 3 minutes of VF/VT defibrillation should have priority over CPR. After this time patients benefit from CPR in conjunction with defibrillation. The outcome for patients presenting with non-shockable rhythms was not associated with time to BLS or CPR quality.