

Extracts from

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The Need for Change

"Universally, there is an urgent need to promote more and better CPR that is complementary to – and does not replace – policies aimed at providing earlier defibrillation."

"Skills acquisition and retention, which are poor, must be improved by simplified procedures and better training methods, and ideally by both. Successful strategies to achieve these aims must therefore be a matter for international debate and concerted action."

"Most people who complete CPR training will not perform effective basic CPR even immediately after training."

"Healthcare professionals are reluctant to attend BLS courses, although numerous studies have shown that they are not uniformly proficient in BLS skills. Their level of skills retention is variable and generally poor.....
All Healthcare professionals should be able to demonstrate competency in the skills of BLS."

"The general disappointment in skills acquisition and retention after conventional resuscitation training programs has shown the need for a change in teaching methods and reduced reliance on instructors."

"Simple audio prompting of chest compressions and rescue breathing has been a remarkably effective tool for improving CPR training and performance."

"The deterioration in skills that is common after conventional training will remain a challenge, although one that might be met more readily if self-instruction devices are available and used."

"Useful instructional aids that improve performance during training should be available to support performance during cardiopulmonary resuscitation for a real cardiac arrest as well....

An ideal solution to these concerns, especially in some situations, would be to have available similar aids (identically configured) available during both training and resuscitation attempts"