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The effect of hospital based clinical practice of paramedic students on cardiopulmonary resuscitation performance and recognition: A before and after study

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Purpose: Various kinds of educational programs have been tried to achieve skill, willingness and self-confidence in performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). Paramedic students usually participate in clinical practice in emergency department as one of their educational courses. We investigated the effects of hospital based clinical practice and participation in real cardiac arrest situation on EMT student.

Methods: From December 2016 to August 2017, 81 paramedic students from ten different University received hospital based clinical practice for three or four weeks in regional emergency medical center and were enrolled in our study. They were asked, using a questionnaire, about their confidence and willingness to perform CPR before and after clinical practice. We also objectively measured two minutes-CPR performance by Laerdal skill reporter before and after clinical practice. In clinical practice, they participated in real CPR situation and took several theoretical examinations but additional CPR practical training was not included.

Results: This study included 48.1% male volunteers, 70.4% with BLS provider certification. Average participation in real CPR situation was 8.35 times. Scores in confidence of CPR were significantly increased (3.80 vs. 4.36, $p<0.001$). Scores in willingness of CPR were high in both group (4.46 vs. 4.48, $p=0.787$). Average chest compression depth were significantly increased (51.3 mm vs. 55.5 mm, $p<0.001$). Average compression rate showed no difference (111 vs. 111, $p=0.694$). Correct hand positioning and chest recoil also showed no difference in both groups.

Conclusion: Hospital based clinical practice of paramedic students could provide extra confidence to perform CPR and could make chest compression depth adequately.

Biography

Tae Chang Jang currently works at the Department of Emergency medicine, Catholic University of Daegu. Tae does research in Emergency Toxicology, Pre-hospital Care and Emergency Medicine. His Research interest are Critical care, trauma, Emergency medicine.

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