INTRODUCTION

- Bystander cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillator (AED) use can significantly reduce out-of-hospital cardiac arrest mortality
- Current initiatives to encourage CPR training in Hong Kong are promising but limited and CPR knowledge in the public population remains low
- In other countries, CPR training in school-aged children has been demonstrated to subsequently significantly increase bystander CPR rates

OBJECTIVE

1. To investigate whether school principals approve or disapprove of compulsory CPR teaching in both Hong Kong secondary schools that currently offer and do not offer resuscitation teaching
2. To determine the barriers preventing implementation of CPR training programs in schools and what strategies would help promote CPR training in the future

METHODS

- Cross-sectional survey conducted between December 2017 and March 2018
- 20-question survey distributed via email or fax in 3 phases to all secondary schools (Form 1 to Form 6) in Hong Kong
- Special schools and tutorial schools were excluded
- School principals or vice-principals were invited to complete the questionnaire

Questionnaire breakdown:

- Part I: General information about the secondary school
- Part II: To assess, if any, the current CPR training program available at the school or reasons for not offering CPR training
- Part III: Attitudes of school principals towards resuscitation teaching for students
- Part IV: Acceptable future strategies to encourage CPR training in schools

RESULTS

Out of the 506 Hong Kong secondary schools, 120 questionnaires were received and included in this study (response rate 25.1%; 8 excluded due to being incomplete or completed by primary school)

CONCLUSION

- School principals are mostly supportive of resuscitation teaching in schools, thus, mandatory CPR training in Hong Kong can hopefully be implemented in the future
- Self-directed video based e-learning training programs or teachers as CPR instructors can be considered to tackle the lack of resources
- Comprehensive promotion to principals, teachers, students, and parents to emphasize the importance of resuscitation teaching is warranted
- Attitudes of students, teachers, parents, and government should also be investigated

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