

# A study of the use of debriefing to improve cardiopulmonary resuscitation delivery at in-hospital adult cardiac arrest

<b>Submission date</b>	<b>Recruitment status</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
22/05/2013	No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b>	<b>Overall study status</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
22/05/2013	Completed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b>	<b>Condition category</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data
16/01/2017	Circulatory System	

## Plain English summary of protocol

### Background and study aims

Cardiac arrest is the sudden stopping of heart function. It affects about 35,000 patients in UK hospitals per year. Less than 20% of cardiac arrest victims survive to leave hospital. Survival requires the delivery of high-quality cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). However, in practice, the delivery of high-quality CPR is not always achieved. Providing feedback (debriefing) to doctors and nurses about their performance at a cardiac arrest may be an effective way to improve the quality of CPR. The aim of this study is to compare the effectiveness of three different debriefing interventions.

### Who can participate?

Patients aged 18 and above who have a cardiac arrest at one of the three hospitals which make up the Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust.

### What does the study involve?

Following each cardiac arrest, staff are offered debriefing about the quality of CPR provided at the cardiac arrest. The type of debriefing is determined by the hospital site. At hospital one, staff receive written feedback. At hospital two, individuals receive spoken feedback. At hospital three, staff participate in monthly debriefing meetings. At each hospital, staff use defibrillators equipped with technology that measures the quality of CPR provided at the cardiac arrest. This technology consists of a small device that is placed on the patients chest during their cardiac arrest. The device also provides immediate feedback about the quality of CPR through audio (e.g. compress faster) and visual prompts. Patients who have a cardiac arrest receive CPR provided by teams who have received debriefing. The effectiveness of each debriefing intervention is determined by measuring and comparing CPR quality. Information collected during this study is compared with data collected during a previous study.

### What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

Patients taking part may benefit from receiving a higher quality of CPR during their cardiac arrest. This study may help to determine which is the most effective debriefing method. There are no anticipated risks associated with taking part.

Where is the study run from?  
Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust (UK)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?  
September 2013 to August 2014

Who is funding the study?  
Resuscitation Council (UK)

Who is the main contact?  
Keith Couper  
keith.couper@heartofengland.nhs.uk

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

**Contact name**  
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## Additional identifiers

**Protocol serial number**  
14495

## Study information

**Scientific Title**  
A study of the use of debriefing to improve cardiopulmonary resuscitation delivery at in-hospital adult cardiac arrest: a non-randomised interventional process of care and treatment trial

**Acronym**  
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Debriefing study (CODE study)

**Study objectives**

Cardiac arrest is the sudden cessation of heart function. It affects approximately 35,000 patients in UK hospitals per year and inevitably leads to death, unless the patient receives prompt defibrillation and high quality cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). However, the quality of the delivery of these key interventions is highly variable.

The use of debriefing can be effective way to change clinician behaviour, and thereby improve care delivery. Debriefing offers clinicians the opportunity to engage in a facilitated discussion about their performance, and identify strategies for improvement. The 2010 International resuscitation guidelines recommended the use of debriefing following cardiac arrest. However, despite some promising early results, cardiac arrest debriefing remains in its infancy and the best way to deliver it has not yet been determined. Based on results from our previous work (systematic review, questionnaires, semi-structured interviews), we have developed new debriefing interventions: individual/small group debriefing, and written feedback.

This study will implement these debriefing strategies within Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust hospitals. The effectiveness of these interventions will be evaluated by measuring CPR quality at in-hospital cardiac arrests, using data that is automatically recorded by Trust defibrillators. The study will use data from another study, as the control period for this study. The primary outcome will be chest compression depth. This is a process outcome, that is associated with defibrillation success and cardiac arrest survival.

### **Ethics approval required**

Old ethics approval format

### **Ethics approval(s)**

Oxford C Research Ethics Committee, 13/08/2013, ref: 13/SC/0363

### **Study design**

Non-randomised interventional process of care and treatment trial

### **Primary study design**

Interventional

### **Study type(s)**

Treatment

### **Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied**

Topic: Generic Health Relevance and Cross Cutting Themes; Subtopic: Generic Health Relevance (all Subtopics); Disease: Critical Care

### **Interventions**

Following each cardiac arrest, staff are offered debriefing about the quality of CPR provided at the cardiac arrest. The type of debriefing is determined by the hospital site. At hospital one, staff receive written feedback. At hospital two, individuals receive spoken feedback. At hospital three, staff participate in monthly debriefing meetings. At each hospital, staff use defibrillators equipped with technology that measures the quality of CPR provided at the cardiac arrest. This technology consists of a small device that is placed on the patients chest during their cardiac arrest. The device also provides immediate feedback about the quality of CPR through audio (e.g. compress faster) and visual prompts. Patients who have a cardiac arrest receive CPR provided

by teams who have received debriefing. The effectiveness of each debriefing intervention is determined by measuring and comparing CPR quality. Information collected during this study is compared with data collected during a previous study.

## **Intervention Type**

Other

## **Phase**

Not Applicable

## **Primary outcome(s)**

Chest compression depth; timepoint(s): during cardiac arrest

## **Key secondary outcome(s)**

Added 21/08/2013:

1. Process-based outcomes (all measured by the defibrillator during the cardiac arrest event):
  - 1.1. Chest compression rate
  - 1.2. No-flow time
  - 1.3. Incidence of compression leaning
  - 1.4. Peri-shock pause
  - 1.5. Appropriateness of shocks
  - 1.6. Time to first shock
2. Patient-based outcomes:
  - 2.1. Return of spontaneous circulation, recorded at 20 minutes following the cardiac arrest event
  - 2.2. Survival to hospital discharge, measured at hospital discharge
  - 2.3. Neurological status at discharge, measured at hospital discharge using the cerebral performance category score

## **Completion date**

15/08/2014

## **Eligibility**

### **Key inclusion criteria**

1. Male & female, lower age limit 18 years
2. Patients sustaining a cardiac arrest at Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust hospitals, which is attended by the hospital emergency team and where resuscitation is attempted

### **Participant type(s)**

Patient

### **Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

### **Age group**

Adult

### **Lower age limit**

18 years

**Sex**

All

### **Key exclusion criteria**

Current exclusion criteria as of 21/08/2013:

1. Valid DNAR (Do Not Attempt Resuscitation) order

Previous exclusion criteria:

1. Valid DNAR (Do Not Attempt Resuscitation) order
2. Traumatic cardiac arrest

### **Date of first enrolment**

02/09/2013

### **Date of final enrolment**

15/08/2014

## **Locations**

### **Countries of recruitment**

United Kingdom

England

### **Study participating centre**

Birmingham Heartlands Hospital

Birmingham

United Kingdom

B9 5SS

## **Sponsor information**

### **Organisation**

Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust (UK)

## **Funder(s)**

### **Funder type**

Research council

### **Funder Name**

Resuscitation Council (UK)

# Results and Publications

## Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

### IPD sharing plan summary

Not provided at time of registration

### Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
<a href="#">Results article</a>	results	01/08/2016		Yes	No
<a href="#">HRA research summary</a>			28/06/2023	No	No
<a href="#">Participant information sheet</a>	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes