Interventions and diagnostics

EFFECTS OF INFORMATIVE VIDEOS TO EMPower PARENTS IN Handling ACUTELY ILL CHILDREN: A RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL

Background Copenhagen Emergency Medical Services (CEMS), Denmark, serves the Capital Region and receives about 200,000 out-of-hours calls/year regarding children. About 40% are referred for further assessment at hospital, but less than two thirds of these children need medical treatment. We studied if parents could be empowered in handling children with mild symptoms at home by informative videos, and thereby reduce hospital admissions.

Method A prospective randomized controlled trial was conducted from 13th October, 2020 – 2nd December, 2021. Parents who called CEMS with children aged 0.5–11.9 years were offered access to informative videos before reaching telephone triage. Parents who accepted were randomized to intervention (receiving videos only) or control (standard telephone triage). Parents could repeat call for triage. Both groups received an electronic survey including questions on self-efficacy measures (rate and depth) during training sessions were compared. Optimal CPR rate and depth in Singapore are 100–120cpm and 40–60mm, respectively. Paired t-tests were used for analysis.

Results There was no difference in average compression rate between practice (109.69) and emergency use (110.94;