Resuscitation during the COVID-19 pandemic

- ANZCOR recognises that this a difficult time for the community and health care providers.

- The underlying principles for CPR remain the same.

- Any Attempt at Resuscitation is Better than No Attempt.

- What has changed with this COVID-19 pandemic is the risk to rescuers.

- Healthcare workers should be provided with appropriate PPE to perform their roles.

- Many sudden cardiac arrests occur in the presence of family members, and many will be unrelated to COVID-19.

- For lay rescuers who are unable or unwilling to do rescue breathing, compression only CPR is acceptable.

- After any attempts at resuscitation, please adhere to current advice about hand washing, cleaning and decontamination*


NB There is currently an international review underway of resuscitation practices in the current pandemic. Guidelines will be continually updated. See https://costr.ilcor.org/document/covid-19-infection-risk-to-rescuers-from-patients-in-cardiac-arrest

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