



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*

<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-resources>

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

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>