First aid education among primary school pupils: an exploratory intervention engaging family members

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**Introduction – Background**

Countries where first aid gestures are taught ➔ Lower death rate after a heart attack (Lindner & al., 2011)

In Belgium, one out of two citizens know what an AED is and only 30% of them know how to use it (Ligue Cardiologique Belge, 2016)

Schools could play an active role to increase awareness and competences about first (Lukas & al., 2016), even with children aged from 8 to 12 years old (Lubrano & al., 2005 / Plant & Taylor, 2013)

Children love to share their knowledge to their relatives. First aid competences learned during PE classes could also be transferred to the family (Plant & Taylor, 2013)

**Objective**

Asses the impact of a first aid cycle provided by PE teachers in the municipality of Chaudfontaine (Belgium) on 5th and 6th grade children and their relatives

**Methodology**

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<tr>
<th>One day first aid training to PE teachers (n=6)</th>
<th>First aid lesson 1</th>
<th>First aid lesson 2</th>
<th>First aid lesson 3</th>
<th>First aid post-intervention evaluation (E1)</th>
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<td>Satisfaction and personal opinion questionnaire</td>
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Pre-cycle Stage

- Relatives questionnaire 1 (R1)
- Pupils questionnaire 1 (P1)

Cycle Stage

- Relatives questionnaire 2 (answers given by the children) (H1)
- First aid evaluation by relatives

Post-cycle Stage

- COVID-19
- First aid post-intervention evaluation 2

**Results and discussion**

**Evolution of first aid knowledge**

Improvement of the knowledge (p < 0.0001) of students in all classrooms due to the cycle. ➔ Similar results in the studies of Lubrano & al. (2005) and Plant & Taylor (2013)

H1 scores are superior compared to R1 scores. From the relatives perspectives, more of them felt afterwards ready “to save lives” assuming a possible knowledge transfer from children to their relatives.

**CPR and AED use**

Only one practical assessment was operated due to the pandemic (E1)

Theoretical principles such as safety rules, assessment of consciousness and theory about CPR globally obtained good scores.

➔ Children aged from 6 to 7 years old are capable to assess consciousness and respiration (Plant & Taylor, 2013)

**Conclusion**

Results are encouraging with a great knowledge improvement by the students which means that PE teachers are capable to give first aid lessons.

CPR can be hard for the children due to their height and weight but they are capable to explain it (Sherif & al., 2007).

Finally, the overall opinion about the study was great and relatives felt afterwards more ready “to save lives”.

Bibliography can be ask by mail to: yp Petitfrere@uliege.be

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