Reviewer’s report

Title: A counterbalanced cross-over study of the effects of visual, auditory and no feedback on performance measures in a simulated cardiopulmonary resuscitation

Version: 3 Date: 21 June 2011

Reviewer: Jo Kramer-Johansen

Reviewer’s report:

Reviewers:
Jo Kramer-Johansen, MD, PhD
Andres Neset, medical student, student fellow

The manuscript has improved from the first version and most of our suggestions are addressed adequately in this second, revised version. A few questions remain and an addition in the revised manuscript introduces some confusion. See below.

Minor essential revisions:
Two minor essential revisions were not addressed, and we will ask the authors to do this in the final version:
1. Figure 2 and 4: Use full range on the y-axis (0 to 50 mm). Y-axes must be similar in the two graphs!
2. Figures 1-4: We would like you to remove the smoothed line between the measurements. You describe measurements in 15s intervals, while the figures apparently show continuous data. Connect measurements from each series with straight lines. The formulas from the regression analysis should be placed outside the chart area as in figure 4 to avoid cluttering of the figures. The trend lines have been removed from figures 3 and 4, please update legends accordingly.

In this second version of the manuscript a new and confusing piece of information has been added (P2L3, P4L9, P5L6+8, P8L2, P9L13, and P12L8): the CPR performed was two-rescuer CPR. This is in contradiction with previous versions and other information in the manuscript. Who was the second rescuer? Please clarify.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
Declaration of competing interests:

A. Neset and J. Kramer-Johansen has received research funding from Laerdal Medical, Stavanger, Norway.