Reviewer’s report

Title: To strengthen self-confidence as a step in improving prehospital youth laymen basic life support

Version: 2 Date: 05 Nov 2019

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

OBJECTIVE - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses one or several testable research questions? (Brief or other article types: is there a clear objective?)

Yes - there is a clear objective

DESIGN - Is the current approach (including controls and analysis protocols) appropriate for the objective?

Yes - the approach is appropriate

EXECUTION - Are the experiments and analyses performed with sufficient technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?

Yes - experiments and analyses were performed appropriately

STATISTICS - Is the use of statistics in the manuscript appropriate?

Yes - appropriate statistical analyses have been used in the study

INTERPRETATION - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?

No - there are major issues

OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Has the author addressed your concerns sufficiently for you to now recommend the work as a technically sound contribution? If not, can further revisions be made to make the work technically sound?
Maybe - with major revisions

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS: This manuscript describes how a group of teens' confidence was impacted by taking a BLS CPR course. Self-confidence is certainly one component of CPR but competence is not assessed in this paper. The statistical approach is simple and reasonable.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

The authors addressed the prior reviewers, however, I have several concerns with this paper: 1) the result itself, that after taking a course that students feel more confident with the material is not surprising, 2) there is no assessment of actual competence, 3) the self-confidence was assessed right after taking the course where it is most likely to be highest and may not reflect confidence during an actual arrest situation, 4) Abstract should mention quantitative results, 5) Conclusions go far beyond the data presented, 6) The discussion section describes the increase in self-confidence then describes why that is important to CPR. I would suggest shortening this considerably and focus more on the pedagogy theory, specifically whether self-confidence is actually associated with competence, 7) Many limitations are not discussed.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
Acceptable

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