DECLARATION

I, John Kipsang declare that this research is my own work. It is being submitted for the degree of Master of Science in Nursing at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. It has not been submitted before for any degree or examination at this or any other university.

John Kipsang                       Signature;…………………………….

Date:……June, 2007.
DEDICATION

I dedicate this report to the Advanced Student Nurses, for accepting to take part in this study, without which this study would not have been possible. To them all I say thank you.

Special dedication to my parents Mr. and Mrs. Edward Birgen, for their inspiration, love and support.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful to God for his love, mercy and grace without which my efforts would have been naught. My gratitude goes to my supervisor Professor Judy Bruce for her guidance, advice, support and patience. Thank you, your wise counsel was instrumental in refining this research report from conception to its completion.

To the deputy Director Academic Kenyan Medical Training College for granting permission to conduct the study. To the chairperson, Department of Nursing (KMTC) who provided support and assigned me a contact person for the duration of data collection.

To Mrs. Macharia my contact person, I say thank you, your assistance was invaluable. My gratitude goes to Mr. Boruet, the In-Charge of the Skills Laboratory for granting access. To Edward the Laboratory-assistant thank you for your help.

To Mr. Musenge, the Biostatistician at the Epidemiology Data Centre for his invaluable input in statistical analysis and data interpretation. Accept my gratitude.

To Daniel Mutu my research assistant who helped in data collection, thank you.

To my friends, classmates and siblings. Your presence, encouragement and support gave me the energy that kept me going. I am eternally grateful to you all.
Nurses’ Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) competence has been a subject of many research studies. The need for nurses to be competent in CPR is not debatable, because nurses are expected to preserve and promote life. This study assessed and compared CPR competence between two groups of Advanced Student Nurses in a Kenyan Medical Training College. The study used a descriptive comparative design. The participants were assigned to two groups based on the CPR training they had received. Group I had Advanced Life Support (ALS) training n=23 (comprised ICU advanced nursing students) and group II had Basic Life Support (BLS) training n=48 (comprised Midwifery, Ophthalmic, Community and Psychiatric advanced nursing students). The study sample constituted 71 participants of whom 28.2% were males and 71.8% were females. Out of the 71 students who took part in the study only five attained the competence score, the remaining 66 failed the competence test. The five who passed the competence score were from the ALS group. The null hypothesis tested in the study was subjected to paired t-test and a p-value of p= 0.0001 was obtained. The null hypothesis was thus rejected based on this finding. The study confirmed previous findings that nurses CPR competence is below the expectation and the difference in training for the two groups of Advanced Student Nurses.
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AHA</td>
<td>American Heart Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>ALS</td>
<td>Advanced Life Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANOVA</td>
<td>Analysis of Variance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARC</td>
<td>American Red Cross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLS</td>
<td>Basic Life Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPR</td>
<td>Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation</td>
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<tr>
<td>CINAHL</td>
<td>Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMS</td>
<td>Emergency Medical Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERC</td>
<td>European Resuscitation Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FBAO</td>
<td>Foreign Body Airway Obstruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICU</td>
<td>Intensive Care Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILCOR</td>
<td>International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDB-CPR</td>
<td>Load Distributing-Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCK</td>
<td>Nursing Council of Kenya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO I</td>
<td>Nursing Officer One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>SANC</td>
<td>South African Nursing Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCA</td>
<td>Sudden Cardiac Arrest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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