

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.

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ABSTRACT

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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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AHA:	American Heart Association
ALS:	Advanced Life Support
ANOVA:	Analysis of Variance
ARC:	American Red Cross
BLS:	Basic Life Support
CPR:	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
CINAHL:	Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature
EMS:	Emergency Medical Service
ERC:	European Resuscitation Council
FBAO:	Foreign Body Airway Obstruction
ICU:	Intensive Care Unit
ILCOR:	International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation
LDB-CPR:	Load Distributing-Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
NCK:	Nursing Council of Kenya
NO I:	Nursing Officer One
NO II:	Nursing Officer Two
NO III:	Nursing Officer Three
RCK:	Resuscitation Council of Kenya
SANC:	South African Nursing Council
SCA:	Sudden Cardiac Arrest
SNO:	Senior Nursing Officer.

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