Effect of chest compression only during experimental basic life support on alveolar collapse and recruitment

Department of Anaesthesiology, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Langenbeckstr, Mainz, Germany.


Overview: This experimental study used dynamic computed tomography (CT) to assess the effects of chest compressions only during cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CCO-CPR) on alveolar recruitment and haemodynamic parameters in porcine model of ventricular fibrillation.

Conclusions: A lack of ventilation during basic life support is associated with excessive atelectasis, arterial hypoxaemia and compromised CPR haemodynamics. These detrimental effects remain evident even after restoration of IPPV.