Kids Save Lives in Greece

NATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM OF SCHOOLCHILDREN IN CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION: PRELIMINARY RESULTS

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Introduction

Greece is included among European countries with the lowest bystander Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and survival rates after out of hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA). Training schoolchildren in CPR is considered worldwide as the best way to improve survival after OHCA and ERC "KIDS SAVE LIVES" Statement is already endorsed by World Health Organization.

Presentation of the preliminary results of KIDS SAVE LIVES implementation in Greece.

Material & Methods

Hellenic Society of Emergency Prehospital Care and the Humanitarian Organization "Kids Save Lives" set up a Program for mass training of schoolchildren and teachers in CPR as the first step of an ambitious plan for establishing mandatory education of schoolchildren in CPR in Greece.

After the official approval of Greek Ministry of Education and following an initial 3months period of pilot implementation in the Region of Central Macedonia, the aforementioned Organizations are implementing KIDS SAVE LIVES in primary and secondary schools at a nationwide level from the beginning of 2018, training schoolchildren from the age of 10. The Program includes 4h of theoretical and practical training and is carried out on a voluntary basis by more than 300 certified ERC Instructors.

After the initial mass training events, certified BLS Courses are organized in the participating schools aiming to the creation of a national pool of young promising BLS Providers.

Results

During the initial period of its implementation (22.02.2017-14.06.2018), 16,127 schoolchildren ≥10yrs and 1,669 teachers were trained in 192 schools (Primary/Secondary: 102/90, Public/Private: 181/11).

A strong positive attitude from both students and teachers was recorded. More than 60 certified BLS and several BLS - Courses were organized for trained students and teachers, and, today, Greece is the country with the younger certified BLS Instructors in Europe.

Positive Impact

AEDs | AEDs MAP

Placement of 17 AEDs in schools and 85 AEDs in local communities.

Creation of a free online application with the exact geographic location of AEDs across the country [WWW.KIDSSAVELIVES.GR].

NO.NO.60

Creation of a community network of trained laypersons and AEDs for the early initiation of BLS in cases of OHCA.

ROSC

Resuscitation of 14 victims of OHCA by trained bystanders during the last 2 yrs.

NEFELI

The first child in Greece that resuscitated a victim of OHCA.

CHOKING

3 small children were saved by 2 teachers and one fireman trained by the Program.

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Projects on progress

WRAH-DAY (16.10.2018)

Organization of an open mass training event of 1,000 children in Athens.

L.I.F.E. F.O.R.C.E

Learning Initiative For Elementary School Fun Oriented Resuscitation Coaching Europe Wide.

BRaille

Proposal of BLS Guidelines in accessible form for visually impaired individuals to be certified in ERC BLS Courses.

Conclusion

KIDS SAVE LIVES could be the decisive factor in incorporating CPR training of schoolchildren into the mandatory education curriculum in all European countries, contributing to the future improvement of survival after OHCA.

References

Training school children in cardiopulmonary resuscitation worldwide. Resuscitation 2015; 94: A5-A7
School children education in resuscitation for Europe and the world. Eur J Anaesthesiol 2017; 34: 792-796

Educational program KIDS SAVE LIVES in numbers

PROGRAM ORGANIZATION | IMPLEMENTATION

HELLENIC SOCIETY OF EMERGENCY PREHOSPITAL CARE
KIDS SAVE LIVES

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Program approval

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS