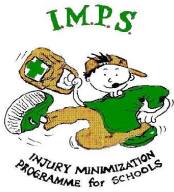


A pilot study of in-school child-taught BLS for parents



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- Background:** The Injury Minimization Programme for Schools (I.M.P.S.) began in 1994.[1] One of the aims is to provide children with the knowledge and skills to do basic life support (BLS). Each year, the year-6 class at St Joseph's, Oxford attend the I.M.P.S. education programme. The school expressed an interest in teaching parents BLS.

The written feedback from the children and the school was extremely positive. The children's perception of the evening was that their parents had learnt a great deal. Several children commented on how they much they enjoyed being the teacher. The overriding comment was that it was a fun learning experience for all..



This was considered an opportunity to both reinforce the children's training and to pass on their new skills to their parents. Over two mornings in March 2007 the pupils attended the John Radcliffe Hospital for their I.M.P.S. training. The children were taught BLS using the four-stage approach common to all European Resuscitation Council courses. One week later, the children, with the help of the I.M.P.S. trainers, spent one evening teaching their parents BLS skills.

- Conclusion:** The St Joseph's pilot shows that I.M.P.S. child-parent BLS training project can be successfully delivered. It reinforced the skills the children had acquired, and the shared process of teaching their parents was positively received by all participants.



They used the same script as they were taught. A pre-intervention questionnaire was completed by the parents; 80% of them had previously had BLS training; for the majority this was over five years ago. Their core knowledge prior to the evening for the most part was poor.

- Implications for practice:** Cross-age, parent-child and peer education have all been successfully reported in health education. [2] This is the first report in this age group of child to parent training in injury prevention and warrants further study.

- Frederick, K., et al., *An evaluation of the effectiveness of the Injury Minimization Programme for Schools (IMPS)*. Inj Prev, 2000. 6(2): p. 92-5.
- Isbye, D.L., et al., *Disseminating cardiopulmonary resuscitation training by distributing 35,000 personal manikins among school children*. Circulation, 2007. 116(12): p. 1380-5.