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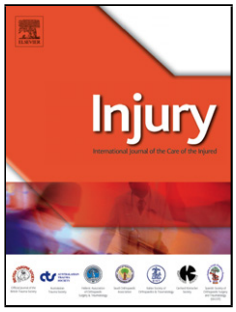

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Authors: Chun Yu Yeung, Wai Wa Yim, Suet Yi Chan, Ronson Sze Long Lo, Ling Yan Leung, Kevin Kei Ching Hung, Colin A. Graham

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Improvement of blood loss volume estimation by paramedics using a pictorial nomogram: a developmental study

Chun Yu Yeung, RN, BN, Wai Wa Yim, BEng, MPH, Suet Yi Chan, RN, BN, Ronson Sze Long Lo, MB BCh BAO, Ling Yan Leung, PhD, Kevin Kei Ching Hung, FHKCEM, Colin A. Graham, MD, MPH

Accident & Emergency Medicine Academic Unit, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR

Address corresponding and reprint requests to: Professor Kevin K. C. Hung, FHKCEM, Accident & Emergency Medicine Academic Unit, Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2/F, Main Clinical Block and Trauma Centre, Prince of Wales Hospital, Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong SAR.

Email: kevin.hung@cuhk.edu.hk

Phone: (852) 35051034

Fax: (852) 26481469

ABSTRACT

Introduction: To propose and evaluate a nomogram to assist paramedics to visually estimate the external blood loss on a non-absorbent surface and to identify whether the nomogram improves visual estimation.

Methods: The study was a prospective, paired-control design (pre-training control group & post-training group), utilizing Emergency Medical Assistant (EMA) I and II trainees from the Hong Kong Fire Services Ambulance Command Training School. A nomogram (blood loss volume to area on a non-absorbent surface) was prepared to aid blood loss estimation. All participants estimated four scenarios of blood pools twice (A: 180ml; B: 470ml; C: 940ml; D: 1550ml) before and after using the nomogram. Every participant received two-minute training on how to use the nomogram correctly. The difference between the estimations and the actual volume in each scenario was calculated. The

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