

March 10, 2015

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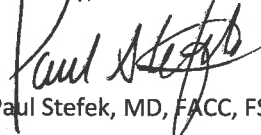
To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter in full support of the initiative to add Hands-Only CPR training to the 75 meter swim test in order to graduate from Cornell. As the director of the Interventional Cardiology Program at Cayuga Medical Center here in Ithaca, I have a vested interest in having students be educated in a technique that aids in improved survival of patients with cardiac arrest. During my 30 plus years in the medical field I have taken part in changes in cardiac care and have come to learn the importance of the treatment given during the initial minutes when a patient suffers a cardiac arrest. The ability to support circulation during this time is an integral part of a patient's survival. The obvious other proven treatment is the rapid defibrillation of the patient.

By having students learn this basic technique, a significant number of people will be educated in this potentially life- saving skill and hopefully consider renewing this skill on a regular basis. I have on more than one occasion been on the receiving end of patients when these techniques were successfully used, as well as witnessed the poor outcomes when CPR was never administered.

I feel strongly that the pursuit of this initiative could have long term benefits for not only the Cornell and Ithaca community, but also for communities wherever the students may go throughout their lives. Cornell has always been a leader and I would expect no less with this recommendation. I am available to help in any way I can. Please feel free to contact me. My office number is 607-882-9068, my cell is 330-716-0868, my home is 607-319-0352.

Sincerely,



Paul Stefek, MD, FACC, FSCAI

Director of Interventional Cardiology

Cayuga Medical Center

Dates Dr.

Ithaca , NY