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Original Article

Epidemiology of out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrests, knowledge of cardiovascular disease and risk factors in a regional setting in India: The Warangal Area out-of-hospital Cardiac Arrest Registry (WACAR)



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Srinivas Ramaka ^{a, *}, Noreen T. Nazir ^b, Vemuri S. Murthy ^c, Terry Vanden Hoek ^d, Bellur S. Prabhakar ^e, Ravikumar Chodavarapu ^f, Sundaresh Peri ^g, Anveshini Uppuleti ^h, Rakesh Jatoth ⁱ, Sindgi Vasudeva Murthy ^j, Adil Sarvar Mohammed ^k, Stevan M. Weine ¹

^d Department of Emergency Medicine, University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine, Chicago, IL, USA

^g Dept of Social and Preventive Medicine, Kakatiya Medical College, Warangal, Telangana, India

^h Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Hospital, Warangal, Telangana, India

ⁱ Kakativa Medical College. Warangal. Telangana. India

^k Mamata Medical College, Khammam, Telangana, India

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ABSTRACT

Objective: Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest (OHCA) is a global public health problem. There is inadequate data on OHCA in India. The Warangal Area out-of-hospital Cardiac Arrest Registry (WACAR) was planned to understand OHCA in a regional setting in India.

Methods: WACAR is a prospective one-year observational cohort study of OHCA in the Warangal area, Telangana, India. The study included 814 subjects of OHCA of presumed cardiac etiology brought to the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Hospital during January 1, 2018, and December 31, 2018. The data collected included; standard Utstein variables with additional data on clinical characteristics (modified Utstein template).

Results: The majority of OHCA subjects were male with a median age of 60 years, and mostly occurring in residential locations within 1 h of onset of symptoms. Individuals with knowledge of CVD risk factors were more likely to report symptoms before OHCA. Data on resuscitation characteristics were inadequate.

Conclusions: The WACAR study provides baseline data regarding OHCA in a regional setting in India. The study demonstrated barriers involving data collection, patient knowledge of CVD risk factors and disease, and access to healthcare, which; impacted the data registry.

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1. Introduction

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is a global public health problem with significant morbidity and mortality.¹ The most concerning

manifestation of CVD is Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest.^{2,3} Global variations in reporting and documentation of OHCA pose a challenge in evaluating the exact burden of OHCA.⁴ Globally, it is estimated that on average, less than 10% of all patients with OHCA survive.⁵ An OHCA registry is an initial step in the collection of data on cardiac arrest. It helps to understand barriers in patient knowledge, regional healthcare-delivery issues, and information on measures, such as the links in the Chain of Survival that can

* Corresponding author.

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^a Principal Investigator WACAR Study, Srinivasa Heart Centre, Warangal, Telangana, India

^b Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Cardiology, University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine, Chicago, IL, USA

 $[^]c$ Coinvestigator WACAR Study,Department of Emergency Medicine, University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine, Chicago, IL, USA

^e Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine, Chicago, IL, USA

^f Department of Pediatrics, Pinnamaneni Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, India

^j Department of Pharmacology, Jayamukhi College of Pharmacy, Narsampet, Warangal, Telangana, India

¹ Departments of Global Health & Psychiatry, University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine, Chicago, IL, USA

E-mail address: srinivasaheartcentre@outlook.com (S. Ramaka).

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improve survival rates from OHCA.⁶ The various currently available global registries on OHCA-the Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival, the Pan-Asian Resuscitation Outcomes Study, European Registry of Cardiac Arrest and others have contributed significantly to the epidemiology of OHCA.⁷ These registries, and known literature have shown that the factors impacting OHCA are variable based on the setting and health care resources.⁸ Individual medical literacy, community and bystander involvement, the timing of cardiopulmonary resuscitation, EMS characteristics, and hospital services affect the OHCA outcomes.^{9,10} With the increasing impact of CVD in developing countries (low and middle-income countries -LMIC), it is imperative to have registries on OHCA. While several of the registries are developed based on the Utstein template, there is limited data on OHCA from India.^{11,12,13} A recent study on media reports of OHCA gave a glimpse of OHCA in India.¹⁴ With this background, the Warangal Area out-of-hospital Cardiac Arrest Registry (WACAR) was planned to serve as one of the initial registries from India.

The Warangal Area out-of-hospital Cardiac Arrest Registry (WACAR) was conducted to provide data on OHCA in a regional setting in India. In addition to standard Utstein variables, data collection on clinical information surrounding OHCA is also aimed at evaluating the relationship between knowledge about CVD, risk factors and their burden, and its impact on OHCA. Additionally, the registry could possibly provide insight into the barriers to the timely interventions.

2. Methods

2.1. Study design and setting

The WACAR is a prospective one-year observational study of OHCA in the Warangal area in the State of Telangana, India. OHCA cases were obtained from a regional Government Hospital, Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Hospital, which is a secondary care District Headquarters Hospital serving the medical needs of a population of about 2,000,000 individuals a year in a low resource setting.

2.2. Participants

The study population included all those above 18 years brought to the hospital with history of non-traumatic OHCA of presumed cardiac origin from January 1, 2018–December 31, 2018. A total of 814 individuals were included in the study for data analysis. The geographical area was chosen as a representative of India's communities with similar awareness and access to healthcare seen in most parts of India.

2.3. Data collection and variables

The Utstein checklist for standardized reporting of OHCA was followed in the study.¹⁵ The data form is based on the ILCOR consensus statement and other registries (CARES, PAROS).^{16,17} A Modified Utstein template was used with additional variables added to the original template. The data collection form includes information on demographics, patient characteristics, risk factors, history of heart disease, comorbidities, prior symptoms, resuscitation characteristics, event timing, utilization of Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and outcomes.

Study data were obtained from a review of hospital records. Medical staff involved in the care of OHCA were given data collection forms that were filled out in the emergency room setting. Information not obtained during the initial emergency room evaluation was acquired from bystanders (including victim's relatives) through telephone interviews. A few OHCA individuals had neither address nor phone number available to collect information.

Individual age was categorized into premature age and advanced or characteristic age for CVD to delineate differences associated with premature CVD risk. Age cutoffs for premature CVD risk were: under 55 years for Males and under 65 years for females.¹⁸ For the second age-category, 55 years and higher for males and 65 years and higher for females were used. Traditional CVD risk factors evaluated were: hypertension (HTN), hyperlipidemia, diabetes mellitus (DM), tobacco use, and family history of CVD. Risk factors were weighted similarly with 1 point assigned to risk factors, with higher points assigned for more risk factor burden. Symptom duration was classified as less than 1 h versus greater than 1 h before the onset of OHCA. Symptoms were evaluated, and individuals were categorized by those who had symptoms preceding the OHCA event versus those without known symptoms.

2.4. Ethical consideration

Permission for the study was taken from the hospital authorities and Institutional Ethics Committee (Approval number – KIEC/KMC/ NCT/NIS/2018/CAR01). The study was registered in clinicaltrials.gov (N.C.T. number - NCT03791359).

2.5. Statistical analysis

Data are recorded in a structured database using MS Excel. Statistical analysis is done with 1) MedCalc Statistical Software version 19.3.1 (MedCalc Software Ltd, Ostend, Belgium; https:// www.medcalc.org; 2020) and 2) Epi Info™ 7.2.3.1 of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (C.D.C.), U.S.A.

Quantitative variables are summarized as mean \pm S.D. and 95% C.I (confidence interval) of mean or median and 95% C.I of median depending upon normal or non- normal distribution. Qualitative variables are summarized as frequency, percentage, proportion, and 95% CI (confidence interval) of percentage.

The relationship between two or more qualitative variables is tested using the Fischer exact test or Chi-square test. An odds ratio (OR) and 95% C.I of OR is calculated to quantify the strength of the association between two variables. A *p* value less than 0.05 is taken as significant and exact *p*-values are reported.

3. Results

3.1. Etiology of OHCA

A total of 1106 subjects of OHCA were brought to M.G.M. hospital during January 2018 and December 2018. After exclusion of subjects due to trauma, hanging and burns, the sample of non-traumatic OHCA was sized down to 926. The study sample included 814 subjects with presumed cardiac etiology, the most common cause of OHCA (Table 1).

3.2. Demographics and clinical characteristics of the study population

Preponderance of male subjects noted in the WACAR study. The median age for the population was 60 years. (range 18–100 years). Majority of OHCA occurred at residential locations and during day time. (Table 2, Fig. 1). Predominant proportion of OHCA patients belong to the advanced age group n = 448, 56.42%) in comparison to proportion of the premature age group (n = 346, 43.58%). Clinical characteristics are represented in Table 3. Analysis is done based on

S. Ramaka, N.T. Nazir, V.S. Murthy et al.

Table 1

Etiology of Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest. Warangal Area out-of-hospital Cardiac Arrest Registry (WACAR).

Presumed cardiac arrest etiology	Number	Percentage
Presumed cardiac	814	87.90%
Poisoning	52	5.62%
Respiratory	15	1.62%
Electrocution	10	1.07%
Snakebite	10	1.07%
Others	25	2.72%
Total	926	100.00%

the available data for each variable. A significant number of subjects had at least one cardiovascular risk factor. Hypertension, diabetes mellitus and tobacco use were the common risk factors noted. (Fig. 2). Ischaemic heart disease and heart failure were the most common CVD reported (Table 3). Chest pain and shortness of breath are the common prodromal symptoms noted in this study.

3.3. Resuscitation characteristics

OHCA was witnessed in a significant number of subjects. A relative was the first responder in the majority of subjects. Inadequate data was reported on resuscitation characteristics like the performance of CPR and the utilization of EMS(Table 4). A call to EMS was made in 281 subjects, but it was available in only 190 subjects. All other subjects were reported to have utilized private modes of transport. Documentation of cardiac rhythm was available only for one subject. Though performance of CPR was reported in 139 subjects, no survivors of OHCA were reported in this study.

3.4. Associations between characteristics of subjects of OHCA

We studied the associations between variables or defined characteristics of subjects of OHCA. The study noted predominance of males in the advanced age group (71.65%) compared to females (28.35%), p value < 0.0001. Gender differences were not observed in the prevalence of risk factors in OHCA subjects. (Males, 72.56% vs.

Females, 66.19%). A higher proportion of males and females in advanced age Group (75.9%, 78.6%) had risk factors compared to those in the premature age group respectively (66.9%,55.9% respectively, p = 0.0003). The study results point to a lack of association between gender and heart disease and also gender wise age group and CVD (Females with CVD 24.24% and males with CVD 24.79%). OHCA subjects in advanced age group (63.26%) are two times more likely to have CAD risk factors compared to those in the premature CVD age group (36.74%) p < 0.0001. Majority of those with risk factors, 84.68% reported symptoms preceding OHCA compared to those without risk factors, 65.58%, p < 0.0001. 84.8% of those with CVD had risk factors, while 15.2% of those with CVD had no risk factors. This suggests that OHCA subjects with risk factors have a greater chance of heart disease (p value < 0.0003). Significant proportion of patients with history of heart disease belong to advanced age group (69.34%), compared to premature age group (30.66%) p = 0.0094. Females (66.28%) are more likely to have symptoms preceding cardiac arrest Compared to males (57.06%) p < 0.0156). While 63.1% in the advanced age group reported symptoms preceding OHCA, 59.38% of those in premature age group had symptoms. There is no association between the proportion of subjects in the age group versus symptoms preceding OHCA and duration of symptoms before cardiac arrest versus the victim reporting symptoms to the attendants. 15.2% of OHCA subjects with symptoms less than 1 h did not inform attendants about symptoms.75.76% of those with preceding symptoms more than 1 h prior had known risk factors compared to 76.87% of those with preceding symptoms of less than 1 h. This suggests no correlation between risk factors and duration of symptoms preceding OHCA. In 27.5% (n = 224) of the total 814 subjects, there was difficulty in completing the entire data due to lack of contact phone number and follow-up responses.

4. Discussion

This is the first registry on OHCA in a regional setting in India incorporating standard Utstein data elements including clinical characteristics (Modified Utstein template). The WACAR study provides a snapshot of epidemiology of OHCA in India. This registry

Table 2

Demographic characteristics of subjects of Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest - Warangal Area out-of-hospital Cardiac Arrest Registry (WACAR).

Characteristic	Group		Frequency	Percent	95% C.I (Wilson)	
1. Gender $(n = 814)$	Male		538	66.09%	62.8%-69.3%	
	Female		276	33.91%	30.7%-37.2%	
2. Age group $(n = 794)^*$	18–20		8	1.01%	0.5%-2.0%	
	21-30		36	4.53%	3.3%-6.2%	
	31-40		76	9.57%	7.7%-11.8%	
	41-50		133	16.75%	14.3%-19.5%	
	51-60		211	26.57%	23.6%-29.7%	
	61-70		194	24.44%	21.6%-27.5%	
	71-80		87	10.96%	9.0%-13.3%	
	81-90		41	5.16%	3.8%-6.9%	
	91-100		8	1.01%	0.5%-2.0%	
3. Location of OHCA $(n = 760)^{**}$	Residence		719	94.61%	92.8%-96.0%	
	Public place (Healthcare fa	acility – 11;	41	5.39%	4.0%-7.2%	
	Street/Highway — 24; wor	kplace – 2;				
	Commercial building – 1;					
	Hospital (MGMH) premise	es — 1;				
	Office -1 School -1)					
4. Time of OHCA (<i>n</i> = 806)***	Day: 56.09%	Morning	207	25.69%	22.8%-28.8%	
		Afternoon	245	30.39%	27.3%-33.7%	
	NIGHT: 43.91%	Evening	218	27.05%	24.1%-30.3%	
		Early hours of morning	136	16.87%	14.5%-19.6%	

OHCA, Out -of Hospital Cardiac Arrest; M G M H, Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Hospital.

Missing data: * In 20 patients, the information on age was not available. - ** In 54 cases the data on location of OHCA was not mentioned. - *** In 8 patients the time of OHCA was not available.





Fig. 1. Age distribution in subjects of Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest-Males versus Females—Warangal Area out-of-hospital Cardiac Arrest Registry (WACAR).

Table 3

Clinical characteristics of subjects of OHCA - WACAR.

Characteristic	Group	Frequency	Percent	95% C.I (W	95% C.I (Wilson)	
1. Risk factors ($n = 589$)	Yes	414	70.29%	66.48%	73.84%	
	No	175	29.71%	26.16%	33.52%	
2. Number of Risk factors $(n = 412)^*$	One risk factor	201	48.79%	43.99%	53.60%	
	Two risk factors	170	41.26%	36.61%	46.07%	
	Three risk factors	40	9.71%	7.21%	12.95%	
	Four risk factors	1	0.24%	0.04%	1.36%	
3. Any past history of Heart Disease ($n = 547$)	Yes	138	25.23%	21.77%	29.03%	
	No	409	74.77%	70.97%	78.32%	
4. If yes, Condition $(n = 106)^{**}$	IHD and Heart Failure- Ischemic	81	76.41%	67.50%	83.48%	
	Heart failure and Non-Ischemic Heart Failure	18	16.98%	11.02%	25.25%	
	Other	7	6.61%	3.24%	13.01%	
	**	32				
5. Any other comorbid illness ($n = 375$)	Yes	174	46.40%	41.41%	51.46%	
	No	199	53.06%	48.01%	58.06%	
	Unknown	2	0.54%	0.15%	1.92%	
6. Comorbid illness ($n = 173$)	Cancer	14	8.09%	4.88%	13.12%	
	Respiratory disease	49	28.27%	22.14%	35.45%	
	Renal disease	35	20.17%	14.92%	26.83%	
	Thyroid disease	7	4.16%	1.97%	8.12%	
	Stroke	30	17.29%	12.43%	23.68%	
	Liver disease	9	5.26%	2.76%	9.59%	
	Others	29	16.76%	11.93%	23.04%	
7. Preceding symptoms present ($n = 764$)	Yes	460	60.21%	56.7%	63.6%	
	No	304	39.79%	36.38%	43.30%	
8. Duration of Symptoms $(n = 352)^{***}$	<1hr	282	80.11%	75.63%	83.95%	
	1–24 h s	51	14.49%	11.19%	18.55%	
	>24 h s	19	5.40%	3.48%	8.28%	
9. Did victim Tell about the symptoms? $(n = 252)$ ****	Yes	218	86.51%	81.74%	90.18%	
	No	34	13.49%	9.82%	18.26%	
10. Any physician contacted? ($n = 159$) *****	Yes	38	24.00%	17.94%	31.09%	
	No	121	76.00%	68.91%	82.06%	

Missing data: * In 2(0.48%) patients definitive information on risk factors was not available. - **In 32(23.18%) there is no data on nature and type of heart disease. - *** In 108(23.47%) duration of onset of preceding symptoms in pts was not available. - ****In 208(45.20%) There was no data on "did victim tell about the symptoms?" - ***** In 301(65.43%) There was missing data on whether any physician was contacted.

OHCA, Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest WACAR, Warangal Area Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest Registry IHD, Ischaemic Heart Disease.



Fig. 2. Risk factors in subjects of Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest-Warangal Area out-of-hospital Cardiac Arrest Registry (WACAR).

is an initial attempt to understand the issues regarding CVD in India in relation to OHCA. This study was designed to understand the barriers in OHCA registry from the healthcare systems perspective and the impact of patient's CVD knowledge on OHCA. To the best of our knowledge, the mutual relationship between patient's knowledge of CVD and OHCA in the current setting has not been addressed before in the available literature. A comparative review of the Utstein data elements in the WACAR study in relation to other international registries provides a framework for emergency systems in India to measure and improve resuscitation care. Data of gender, age and location are similar to other OHCA registries.^{19,20,21}

Gender differences in epidemiology and resuscitation outcomes after OHCA are well known.²² Female subjects of OHCA belong to

Table 4

Resuscitation characteristics	of subjects of O	DHCA-Warangal Area οι	ıt-of-hospital Cardia	c Arrest Registry (WACAR).
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Characteristic	Group	Frequency	Percent	95% C.I (Wilson)	
1. OHCA witnessed ($n = 576$)	Yes	523	90.79%	88.16%	92.9%
	No	53	9.21%	7.10%	11.84%
2. First responder witness $(n = 540)$	Relative	533	98.70%	97.35%	99.37%
	Friend	3	0.56%	0.20%	1.62%
	Stranger	1	0.18%	0.03%	1.04%
	Other	3	0.56%	0.20%	1.62%
3. EMS called $(n = 567)$	Yes	281	49.55%	45.46%	53.66%
	No	286	50.45%	46.34%	54.54%
4. Type of EMS called $(n = 258)$ *	Ambulance 108	221	85.70%	80.86%	89.58%
	Ambulance-	37	14.30%	10.59%	19.14%
5. CPR initiated $(n = 500)$	Yes	139	27.80%	24.05%	31.88%
	No	361	72.20%	68.12%	75.95%
6. If Yes, type of CPR initiated	CPR with compressions and breaths	7	6.80%	3.33%	13.37%
$(n = 103)^{**}$	Hands only CPR	95	92.23%	85.42%	96.01%
	Hands only CPR, use of defibrillator.	1	0.97%	0.17%	5.30%
7. CPR initiated by $(n = 126)^{***}$	EMS person	42	33.33%	25.70%	41.95%
	Trained in CPR	43	34.13%	26.43%	42.76%
	Family LP	31	24.60%	17.91%	32.80%
	stranger LP	10	7.94%	4.37%	13.99%
8. Time interval between OHCA and	<5 min	7	8.04%%	3.95%	15.69%
initiation of CPR $(n = 87)^{****}$	5–20 min	64	73.56%	63.44%	81.69%
	>20 min	16	18.40%	11.65%	27.80%
9. EMS ambulance available	Yes	108 in 153 and other	108 responded in 69.2%	-	_
(n = 190)		ambulance in 37	and other ambulance		
			responded in 100.00%		
	_	_	_	_	-
10. Time of arrival of EMS					
(n = 124)*****	5 min	4	03.23%	1.30%	8.00%
	10 min	24	19.35%	13.37%	27.19%
	15 min	55	44.35%	35.91%	53.14%
	20 min	23	18.55%	12.69%	26.30%
	30 min	12	09.70%	5.62%	16.15%
	40 min	3	02.41%	0.83%	6.87%
	60 min	3	02.41%	0.83%	6.87%
11. AED/Defibrillator used ($n = 44$)	Yes	17	38.63%	25.72%	53.38%
	No	27	61.36%	46.62%	75.25%

Missing data: * In 23(8.18%) cases there is no data on the type of EMS called. - ** In 36(25.89%) there is missing data of which type of CPR was performed - *** In 13(9.35%) there is no data regarding who initiated the CPR - **** In 52(37.41%) the time between OHCA and start of CPR was not available. - ***** In 66(34.7%) The time of arrival of EMS was not available.

OHCA, Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest; EMS, Emergency Medical Services; CPR, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation; AED, Automated External Defibrillator; LP, Lay Person.

the older age group, experience arrest in private locations, have fewer initial shockable rhythms, are less likely to receive evidencebased interventions and have worse outcomes. This is partly explained by biological sex and gender-based influences.²³ The PAROS study showed that women in reproductive age group had better outcomes compared to menopausal women.²⁴

Efforts to improve survival from OHCA in residential areas should include training family members in CPR and reducing ambulance response times.²⁵ The present study has relatively higher occurrences of OHCA in residential areas compared to other registries. A recent study in India has given elaborate information on public locations of OHCA in India which highlights the need to identify high risk areas of OHCA and initiate public health measures in this direction.¹⁴Implementation of Public access defibrillation programs is known to improve survival from OHCA.²⁶ The increased occurrence of OHCA during day time is noted in this study. Temporal variability in incidence and survival after OHCA is well known. This is explained by the variability in biological processes and the links in the Chain of survival.^{27,28}

The WACAR study demonstrated the predominance of classical risk factors for CAD—HTN, DM, tobacco use which are known to increase the risk for OHCA which is already known from the Reykjavik study.^{29,30} Smoking as a modifiable risk factor has the strongest association with OHCA in men, increasing the risk by 70% IHD and heart failure as common causes of cardiac-related OHCA have been documented in previous studies.^{31,32} Increasing age and comorbid conditions negatively impact outcomes after OHCA.

The importance of collecting detailed data on clinical characteristics of OHCA in the Indian scenario is emphasised in the context of increasing burden of CVDs in India.^{33.} With the UN Goal of Reducing Premature Mortality from NCDs by 25% by 2025 fast approaching, focusing on screening for risk factors, implementation of National programs on NCD, population-based screening for CVD and evidence-based treatment of CVD are the need of the hour.

The reporting of chest pain and shortness of breath as dominant symptoms is consistent with other studies.,³⁴ Early notice of prodromal symptoms would lead to early activation of EMS, Early access to healthcare and prevent OHCA and also improve outcomes.³⁵ Increasing delay in activating EMS before the onset of OHCA is associated with reduced survival. Individuals with prior knowledge of CVD are more likely to report symptoms before OHCA and seek early Emergency Cardiovascular care. It is also known that subjects of OHCA seek healthcare and present symptoms during the week prior to an OHCA. Data in the registry indicates that knowledge of CVD and risk factors contribute to behavioural changes to seek early healthcare. This could encourage the family members to call EMS urgently and transport patients to hospitals faster. Public health initiatives like educating lay public on aspects of CVD are expected to reduce patient delays to access health care from the onset of symptoms. Various factors such as witnessed OHCA, immediate High-quality CPR and early defibrillation impact the survival outcomes from OHCA.³⁶

The weak data on resuscitation variables in the study points to the need to increase awareness on cardiac arrest and Hands-only CPR. It is known that Utstein survival (the rate of survival among, persons whose arrests are witnessed by a bystander and who had an initial shockable rhythm) is a better measurement tool for determining the effective of Community CPR training. National health initiatives to enhance public awareness of OHCA and lay rescuer CPR training involving partnerships between national societies are on the anvil.³⁷ A recent study by Srinivas et al highlighted the vital role of Indian media in raising public awareness of cardiac arrest and CPR.¹⁴ The weak links in the Chain of Survival provide an opportunity to improve survival outcomes from OHCA.^{38,39} The vital information from such registries needs to be utilised in initiating region-specific cardiac care projects throughout India (such as Heart Rescue India project in Bengaluru, Karnataka) to enhance outcomes.⁴⁰ A community-centred public health approach involving the application of the framework of the Haddon Matrix for sudden cardiac arrest is in need. This involves surveillance-high-quality data collection, identification of risk of SCA, protective factors, evidence-based interventions and implementation -population level education and enforcement aiming at improvement of outcomes from OHCA.⁴¹ Implementation of the Utstein formula pairing medical science with educational efficiency and local implementation along with a systems approach is proven to improve survival from OHCA.³

4.1. Limitations

The limiting factors in the study include the lack of a centralized data collection and OHCA registry system, difficulties in accessing relevant information from all area hospitals, and possible inaccuracy in the total number of OHCA cases reported from this study's geographic area in one year. All these contribute to selection or reporting bias. Difficulties in data collection are also due to lack of access to records from EMS ambulance systems (Public or Private).⁴² OHCA is not a reportable event in India. Lack of verifiable data from death certificates, gaps in information from the hospital records and unreliability of information provided by the first responders and family contribute to information bias. Recalling the details of the OHCA by first responders could be a recall-bias.

5. Conclusions

The results of WACAR highlight that OHCA of cardiac etiology is a significant public health problem in India. WACAR also gives insight into the epidemiology of OHCA in India to some extent and the difficulties in data collection. Initial high-quality data collection, designing and implementation of regional programs tailored to the specific needs of a community are necessary. Public health campaign strategies to raise awareness of CVD and Sudden Cardiac Arrest, Bystander CPR training and Public Access Defibrillators and timely Tertiary Cardiac Care are needed to improve outcomes. The EMS system, public or private, needs to be adequately strengthened with the necessary life-saving equipment and ongoing training of EMS personnel. It is hoped that this preliminary study will generate enough interest for more prospective comprehensive OHCA Registries with the Governmental support.

Key messages

* What is already known about this subject?

There is limited data on OHCA in India. Until now, there is no Registry on OHCA in India based on Utstein template.

* What does this study add to existing knowledge?

The WACAR study provides a snapshot of the epidemiology of OHCA in a regional setting in India. In addition, the study provides data on CVD and risk factors in subjects of OHCA.

* What is the likely impact?

This study highlights the need for an Indian OHCA National Registry to improve outcomes.

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Conflicts of interest

All authors have none to declare.

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