



Parent Heart Watch.

THE NATIONAL VOICE
PROTECTING YOUTH FROM SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST

INCIDENCE OF SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST IN YOUTH STATISTICAL STUDIES AND RESEARCH

Various studies have been conducted on the incidence of Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) in youth, however, they have been based on different criteria and therefore produced different results. For example, it is reported that:

- 8,800 fatalities from sudden cardiac arrest in children under age 18. Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics--2014 Update: A Report from the American Heart Association. Source: Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium Investigators
- SCA is a leading cause of sudden death in young people, with about 5,700 cases reported in children each year according to the American Heart Association. DOI:10.1161/CIRCULATIONAHA.109.192667 Circulation published online Dec 17, 2009
- 2,478 cases of death caused by cardiovascular diseases under age 24; over half were in the 15-24 age group. National Vital Statistics Report Volume 56, Number 10 Data for 2005, Published April 24, 2008
- An estimated 14,000 children and infants die annually from Sudden Cardiac Death (SCD) according to the Heart Rhythm Society in May 2004.
- SCA is estimated to affect up to 7,000 young people annually according to the Pediatric Clinics of North America Journal #1999; 46(2):221-234

NOTE: Presently, there is no mandatory and systematic national registry in place for SCA/SCD in youth by credible sources such as medical facilities, medical examiners and coroners to a central national database of SCD in youth. In 2013, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced the creation of a pilot program - Sudden Death in the Young Registry. Data collection will begin in early 2015.

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