

THE NETWORK: TOWARDS UNITY
FOR HEALTH & FACULTAD DE MEDICINA,
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THE NETWORK
TOWARDS UNITY FOR HEALTH



Facultad de Medicina



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"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH
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SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

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TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	Juniors Save Lives When Adults Cannot: CPR/AED Trainings for underage individuals in Turkey
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Intersectoral Collaborations and the Social Determinants of Health</i>
Presenting Author	Alp Canbulat
Co-Authors	Elif Canbulat, Ata Güler, Selin Sipahiler, Ulufer Sivrikaya
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Content

One of the key determinants of a cardiac arrest patient's prognosis is the ability of the bystanders to recognize the arrest and start CPR immediately. In developed countries, CPR/AED training has been made highly accessible to broader segments of the population through nationwide initiatives carried on by organizations like the American Heart Association (AHA) and the European Resuscitation Council (ERC). ERC's "Kids Save Lives" statement was released in January 2015, with endorsement from the WHO. The initiative aims to introduce annual CPR training into the curriculums of all school children over the age of 12, but in developing countries like Turkey, economic inconsistencies limit the accessibility of training opportunities to college students and professionals. When we first established the Health and Medicine Club at our two high schools in Istanbul, Turkey, our core objectives were to increase public health awareness at our schools, and enable our fellow students to take action when necessary - when someone is in cardiac arrest, for instance. Now, we are implementing the CPR/AED project as a collaboration between five different high schools and the RMK Academy of Interventional Medicine, Education and Simulation in Istanbul. So far, we organized four free CPR/AED courses and trained over 125 high-school students, and we are still counting up. This project is the first independent initiative that focuses on providing underage individuals with CPR/AED training in Turkey, and the first step we took to empower our peers and remind them that no one is too young to make a difference.