Dear Editor,

Investigation of international practices in community cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training constitutes an important area of research, as it may uncover disparities in resuscitation education and inform public health initiatives to improve bystander CPR rates and outcomes after out-of-hospital cardiac arrest. Along with individual population-based surveys carried out around the globe to investigate the prevalence of CPR training among the general public, some systematic research has been undertaken to map and analyze evidence from these observational studies.

A scoping review conducted by our research group [1] was the first study that investigated international evidence from population-based surveys reporting the prevalence of community resuscitation training. Based on 61 published studies conducted in 29 countries, the review showed the following: (1) a lack of data on community CPR training for most countries of the world, (2) a predominance of studies conducted in high-income countries compared to countries with lower-income economies, and (3) considerable variation in reported CPR training rates (3%-79%) with a median global prevalence of CPR training amounting to 40% [1]. Alongside this, the scoping review demonstrated significantly higher rates of resuscitation training in countries with higher income economies (50%, 23%, and 17% for high-, upper middle-, and lower middle-income countries, respectively), indicating international disparities in existing practices of community CPR training and suggesting the need to further improve public awareness of cardiac arrest and education on resuscitation worldwide [1].

A recently published systematic review and meta-analysis by Ng et al. [2] corroborated the findings of the aforementioned scoping review [1]. In particular, based on the results of 17 studies, the pooled prevalence of ever been trained in CPR in the general global population was 39.6% (ranging from 3% to 65%), and significant variation was demonstrated for CPR training rates among continents and countries with different gross national income levels (43.6%, 40.1%, and 3.0% for high-, upper middle-, and lower middle-income levels, respectively) [2]. The authors confirmed a positive correlation between national income and the prevalence of community CPR training and concluded that CPR training needed to be promoted among laypersons, particularly in Asia, the Middle East, and low-income regions [2].

While not denying the importance of the research by Ng et al. [2], it is worth noting that the authors neglected to discuss the preceding scoping review [1], while including it in the reference list. The omission of the scoping review results [1] led the authors to overlook some relevant publications, which fit the aim of their systematic review [2], including but not limited to the arti-
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PREVALENCE OF CPR TRAINING AROUND THE GLOBE

FUNDING

ORCID

REFERENCES

ETHICS STATEMENT

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Not applicable.

No potential conflict of interest relevant to this article was reported.