

Reaching out to educate more people on CPR

From
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I REFER to the question posted on Your page (The New Paper, 1 Jul), "Should all members of the public be taught basic CPR?"

The Singapore Heart Foundation (SHF) agrees with reader Trevor Lai Siyong and firmly believes that the key to improving the out-of-hospital heart attack survival rate in Singapore (currently at 2.7 per cent) can be significantly improved by getting more people trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

We see the importance of educating the public on CPR because about 70 per cent of heart attacks occur at home.

Since the launch of SHF's Heart Safe Singapore initiative last September, we have been aggressively promoting CPR training in the community.

We collaborated with South West Community Development Council in February for a pilot launch of the Family and Friends CPR Anytime Kit.

This home CPR kit, which includes a plug-and-play DVD and a mannequin, is an easy and cost-effective way for everyone to learn basic CPR skills anytime, anywhere.

We are working towards modifying the CPR kit and launching it later this year. Eventually, we also hope to work with the Ministry of Education to have CPR taught to schoolchildren.

We invite everyone to join us at the Olivia Ballroom, Level 4, at the Raffles City Convention Centre tomorrow as we co-organise a free mass CPR training session from 1pm to 5pm.