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# A European survey of critical care nurses' attitudes and experiences of having family members present during cardiopulmonary resuscitation

P Fulbrook<sup>a</sup> ... J.M. Latour<sup>c</sup>

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### Abstract

This paper presents the results of a survey into the experiences and attitudes of 124 European critical care nurses to the presence of family members during cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). Nurses from mainland Europe were less experienced and less sure about the consequences of relatives witnessing resuscitation than United Kingdom (UK) nurses. Generally, nurses supported the presence of family members, although UK nurses held significantly more positive attitudes than their non-UK counterparts in the areas of decision-making, processes and outcomes of resuscitation. Differences in attitudes are explored in the discussion. On the basis of results from this study, it is

recommended that further policy guidance is required.



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## Keywords

Family witnessed resuscitation; Critical care nurses; Attitudes; Survey

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