

Reducing Psychological Harm from Traumatic Events Among Children and Adolescents: Psychological Debriefing

Task Force Finding

Intervention Definition

Psychological debriefing, also known as critical-incident stress management, is intended to be a group meeting offered shortly after a traumatic event for the purpose of preventing the development of adverse reactions.

Task Force Finding (June 2006)*

The Task Force finds insufficient evidence to determine the effectiveness of psychological debriefing in reducing psychological harm in children and adolescents, because only one study of good quality of execution was found and suggested no effect.

*From the following publication:

Task Force on Community Preventive Services. Recommendations to reduce psychological harm from traumatic events among children and adolescents. *Am J Prev Med* 2008;35(3):314-6.

Publications

Wethington HR, Hahn RA, Fuqua-Whitley DS, Sipe TA, Crosby AE, et al. The effectiveness of interventions to reduce psychological harm from traumatic events among children and adolescents: a systematic review. *Am J Prev Med* 2008;35(3):287-313.

Task Force on Community Preventive Services. Recommendations to reduce psychological harm from traumatic events among children and adolescents. *Am J Prev Med* 2008;35(3):314-6.

Disclaimer

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