

Reducing Psychological Harm from Traumatic Events Among Children and Adolescents: Play Therapy

Task Force Finding

Intervention Definition

Play therapy has been used as a means to enhance communication about and facilitate the resolution of trauma-related issues for child crime victims.

Task Force Finding (June 2006)*

The Task Force finds insufficient evidence to determine the effectiveness of play therapy in reducing psychological harm in children and adolescents because of substantial heterogeneity in the body of evidence, particularly in the intervention format.

*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.

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Document last updated October 18, 2010