

THERAPY?

We can help!

What is crisis intervention?

People with severe mental illnesses such as schizophrenia may be in need of emergency care at some stage in their illness, particularly in the early stages. Crisis intervention is a treatment model designed to offer intensive crisis-focused treatment to people living in the community, and is usually provided in the context of home-based care. Crisis intervention programs comprise teams of specialist staff who often provide 24-hour availability of support. This may be a mobile treatment, a dedicated unit based in a hospital or day centre, or a residential program.

What is the evidence for crisis intervention?

Moderate to low quality evidence suggests improved overall symptoms and social adjustment by 20 months, reduced unsociable behaviour, agitation, and disorientation by 4-6 months, reduced family burden and disruption by 3 months but not 6 months, and greater patient and relative satisfaction with home-based crisis intervention over hospitalisation. Moderate to high quality evidence also suggests a small effect of home-based crisis intervention over hospitalisation for retaining people in the study in the medium term (6-12 months), but not the short term (< 3 months) or the long term (20 months).

For further information see the technical table

HOW YOUR SUPPORT HELPS

We are able to make significant advances due to the generosity of countless people. Your donation allows us to continue to work towards transforming lives. For information on how you can support our research, phone **1300 888 019** or make a secure donation at neura.edu.au/donate/schizophrenia.