

Madison County Department of Emergency Medical Services

Standard Operating Guideline



Title	CISM Initiation
Number	023
Adoption Date	1/1/07
Revision Date	
Approved by	Lewis Jenkins, EMS Director



Purpose:

To provide information regarding the initiation of a Critical Incident Stress Debriefing.

Policy:

Critical Incidents may stress personnel by causing unusually strong emotional responses to a situation.

1. The following are the most common responses, which may require a defusing, and/or a debriefing:
 - A. Death of a child or children
 - B. Injury to children (especially intentionally inflicted)
 - C. Death of any other person (especially a line-of-duty co-worker)
 - D. Multiple casualty incidents
 - E. Fear of illness/injury in the line of duty
 - F. Fear of one's own death in the line of duty
 - G. Aircraft incidents
 - H. Vehicle accidents (especially prolonged extrications, etc.)
 - I. Large scale fire suppression involving evacuation or search and rescue
 - J. Extended operations (especially nighttime)
 - K. Patient is personally known to provider(s)
 - L. Fire victims are personally known to crew member(s) or are family member(s) of crew member(s)
2. Since most incidents listed above require a multiple-agency response, volunteer and career personnel may be exposed to difficult situations as members of the same team. Any member of the rescue community may request a CISM team response if they or a member of their team feel the need.
3. The initiation of a defusing/debriefing team shall be accomplished by:
 - A. Contact the EMS Director.
 - B. If the Director is not available contact Charlottesville ECC (434) 977-9041.