

TITLE: Modifying Negligent Driving Behavior: Evaluation of Selected Driver Improvement Techniques, A Second Year Follow-up

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PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

To determine long-term effects of previously investigated treatments and provide decision information requested by the Legislative Analyst's Office.

SUMMARY:

Group Educational Meetings (GEM) were successful in reducing collision involvement during the one-year period after drivers were identified as "negligent operators" ($p < .10$, two tailed). The GEM was the only initial contact studied which was at all promising in terms of collision reduction, although its effects did dissipate during the second year. Cost-benefit results indicated that the GEM would produce a savings of between 3.5 and 7.5 million dollars per year for the people of California.

The report notes that a follow-up hearing still appears to be useful for those drivers who continue to accumulate convictions and collisions after their initial treatment (GEM, *W IL*, etc.). Such a follow-up hearing resulted in further collision reduction except in those cases where no initial treatment was administered (control group). This was interpreted as support for DMV's practice of progressing from mild to more severe actions when a driver continues to be involved in collisions and traffic convictions. As with the GEM, the effects of the follow-up hearing were of short duration--neither one showing effects lasting longer than a year.

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommended further research was accomplished (see following reports); recommended policy avoiding individual hearings as the initial contact was adopted. The group educational meeting was retained as the department's first in-person negligent operator contact program.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

None.