

TITLE: The Development and Evaluation of Accident Countermeasures in Driver Licensing Agencies

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REPORT NUMBER: Unnumbered (NRN046)

NTIS NUMBER: None

FUNDING SOURCE: Departmental Budget

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

To add to the fund of knowledge concerning accident countermeasures.

SUMMARY:

Some conceptual models and designs for developing more efficient licensing programs and driver-oriented accident countermeasures are outlined. The authors point out the futility of seeking a "silver bullet" solution to the highway crash problem. Statistics and studies are cited in the report to show that wholesale removal of the worst drivers (accident and violation repeaters) would have only a limited impact on the total accident problem. Emphasis is placed on the need for sound evaluation procedures including detailed conceptual analyses, randomized treatment assignment, control groups, very large sample sizes, and valid criterion measures. The report recommends a cost-benefit approach to program development and countermeasure allocation, and notes that a program which saves (through accident prevention) more than it costs should be retained, even if it has only a minor impact on the "total accident problem."

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Not applicable.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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