

Novice Teen Driving: GDL and Beyond

Jim Hedlund

Highway Safety North

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GDL and beyond

- Where we've come from
 - Where are we today
 - What comes next
 - How to get there
 - For more information
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- Novice Teen Driving – GDL and Beyond
Tucson AZ February 5-7, 2007

Where we've come from

- 1996 to 2005 crashes per population
 - Age 16: - 42 % fatal - 41 % police-reported
 - Age 17: - 23 % - 26 %
 - Age 18: - 7 % - 12 %
 - Age 19: - 15 % - 12 %
 - Age 30-59: - 15 % - 26 %
- Greatest decreases at night, with passengers

Where we've come from

- 1996:
 - FL introduced first comprehensive GDL program
- 2007:
 - all states have some GDL components
 - about half have “good” systems (IIHS)

Where we've come from

- Major advances in understanding adolescent development: brain research
- GDL addresses many adolescent developmental needs

Where we are today

- Teens still over-represented in crashes
 - Driver errors, speeding, passengers (but not alcohol)
- GDL
 - only half of states have “good” systems; none has “optimal” system (IIHS)

Where we are today

- GDL proven effective
 - “amazingly consistent positive effects”
 - reasons: delayed licensure, nighttime and passenger restrictions
 - older novice drivers are safer novice drivers
- Still many questions
 - cell phones and other distractions
 - contingent advancement
 - seat belt use
 - details: nighttime hours, holding periods, supervised driving, ...

Where we are today

- Parents
 - key role, but need help
 - some positive research results on programs to assist parents in managing, setting limits
 - several private-sector parent-teen programs; need evaluation

Where we are today

- Driver education
 - teaches skills; does not teach safe driving
 - may be more effective with better teaching methods, more attention to risk factors
 - great opportunity to integrate with GDL
 - opportunities to learn from Australia, Europe

Where we are today

- Law enforcement
 - Many officers don't know or don't enforce GDL requirements
 - Many enforcement challenges: law provisions, probable cause, staffing, parents, ...
 - Best practice: active GDL enforcement
- DMVs
 - Best practice: active DMV role in educating parents and teens, monitoring GDL compliance, applying appropriate actions or sanctions

Where we are today

- Technology: a “perfect storm” coming?
 - Rapid growth of electronic communication devices
 - Teens far more adept, multi-task regularly
 - In-vehicle technology to inform driver, control car
 - Technology as a passenger:
 - distractor or supervisor?
 - rowdy teenage boy or concerned parent?

What comes next: programs

- Effective GDL programs in all states
 - Laws: core components in all states
 - Coordinated education and advocacy
 - Effective support materials
 - Programs
 - Law enforcement understand and enforce GDL
 - DMVs educate teens and parents, monitor licensees, take action for violations
- Deal with distracting technology before it's too late

What comes next: research

- Data: licensure and VMT
- Fundamental research: teen crash causes
- GDL: program details
- Technology: supervisory role (educate, monitor, control)
- Parents: how to integrate into GDL system
- Driver ed: how to improve, integrate with GDL

How to get there

- Programs
 - Coordinated education and advocacy
 - Collaborative program implementation, evaluation
- Research
 - Comprehensive: too big for any one organization
 - Coordination: at least keep track of what others are doing

For more information

Novice Teen Driving: GDL and Beyond:
Research Foundations for Policy and Practice

Tucson AZ February 2007

NSC, CDC, NHTSA, GEICO, GM, Nationwide,
State Farm

Products: www.nsc.org/gdl/
also at NSC booth

Info at www.nsc.org/gdl/

One-page fact sheets

- Learner's permit holding periods
- Nighttime restrictions
- Passenger restrictions
- Technology
- Key GDL influences and partners
- Next steps: research, evaluation, and implementation

Info at www.nsc.org/gdl/

Conference presentations

- 16 powerpoints (pdf)

Conference proceedings:

J. Safety Research 38(2), 2007, p 129-266

- 16 background papers
- 1 summary paper
- 4 commentaries

For more information

IIHS: www.iihs.org/laws/graduatedLicenseIntro.aspx

- Each state's GDL and other novice driver laws
- Summary table of GDL provisions for all states
- Information updated regularly

GHSA table: www.statehighwaysafety.org

jhedlund@sprynet.com