

Strategies to increase GDL Enforcement,
Compliance and the Passage of Stronger Laws
The Howard County Parking Permit Program

Richard Lichenstein, MD
Maura J. Rossman, MD

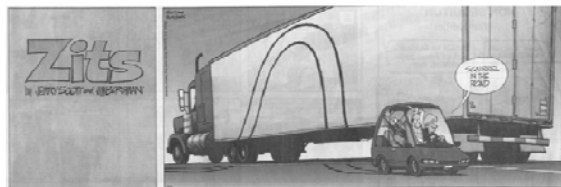


Disclosure

- Richard Lichenstein and Maura J. Rossman received the AAP Friends of Children Healthy People 2010 Grant in 2008 which revised the Parking Permit Program, incorporated the Parent Teen Driving Agreement and incorporated pediatricians in teen driving safety



Teen Driving – Risky Business



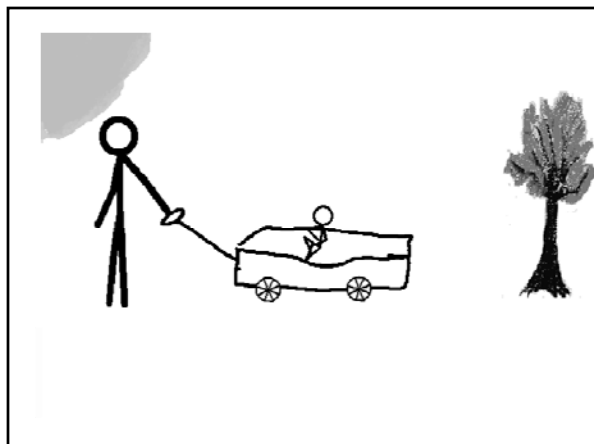
The problem - Maryland

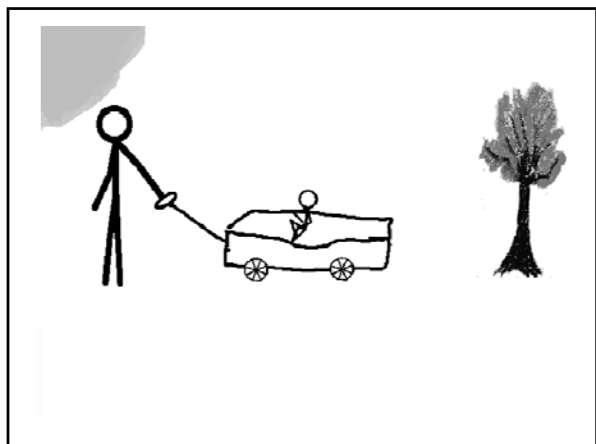
- **90%** of the young drivers killed in fatal crashes were deemed to be *at fault*
- **Nearly half** of young drivers **16 to 20** involved in fatal crashes in 2007 were not buckled up
- ...**more than 10 percent** of fatal crashes involving these ages occurred from midnight to 4am

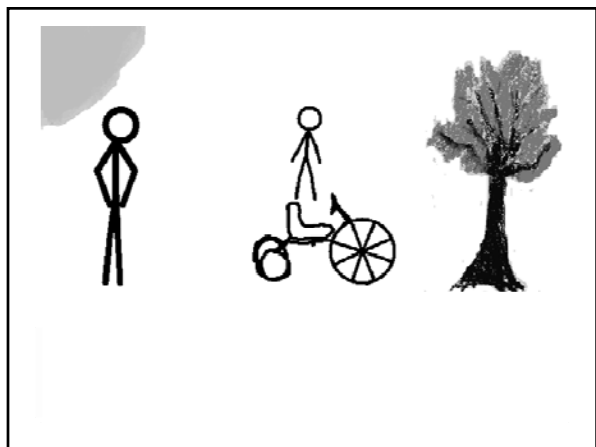


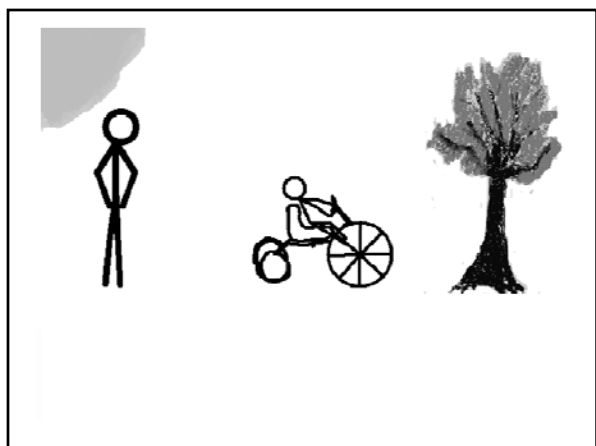
Development of a problem

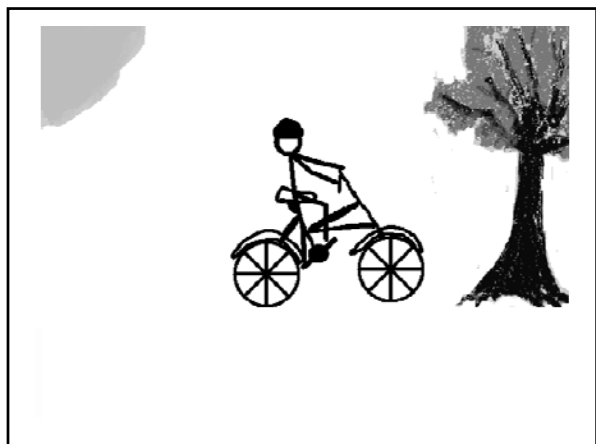


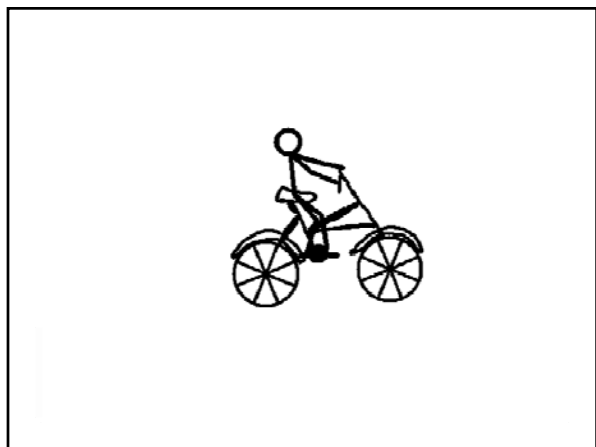


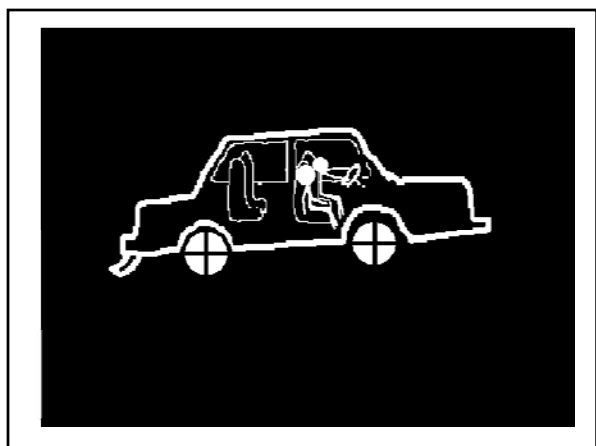


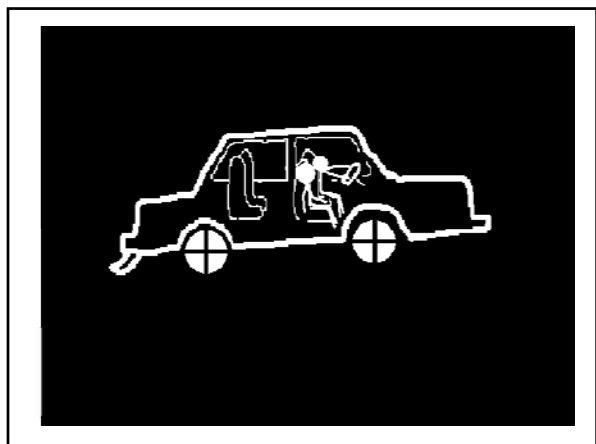


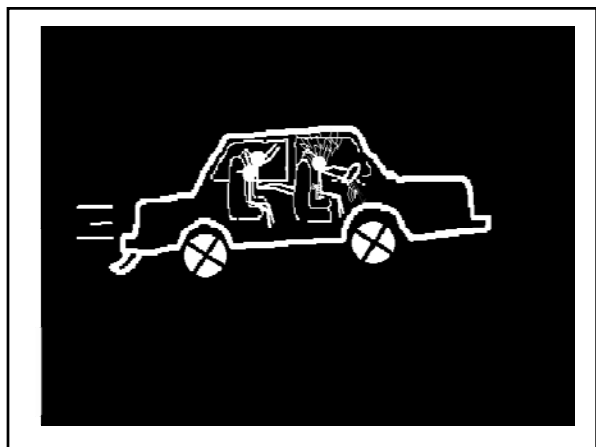














What can be done?

- GDL
- Legislation
 - Seat belts
 - Sobriety checkpoints
- Parents
- Pediatricians?

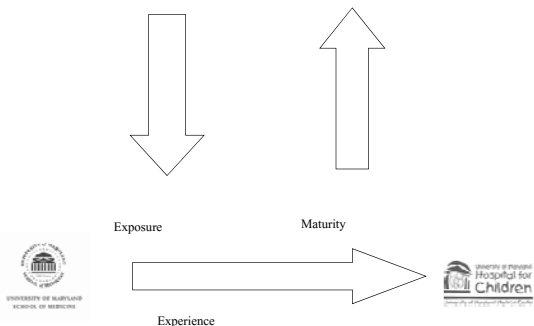


Graduated licensing

- Permit period
 - Supervised learning
 - Minimum entry age & holding period
 - Minimum number of hours of practice
 - Take driving test to go to next stage
- Intermediate (provisional) stage
 - Unsupervised driving
 - Chance to practice in less dangerous conditions
 - Restrictions applied: nighttime & passengers
 - Restrictions lifted after certain age or holding period
- Full license



How GDL works



The Howard County Parking Permit Program

- How we became involved



Howard County Parking Permit Program



Motive and Opportunity

- We saw parents as integrally responsible for their driving children



Parents

- Role model
- Set and enforce rules
- Control access to car
- Driving instructor
- Assure car is safe
- Decide if teen is mature enough for license



Schools

- Consideration that driving on school premises was a privilege
- Opportunity to enhance reinforcement of the Maryland GDL with teens and parents



Parent Teen Driving Agreement



Parent-Teen Driving Agreement

I, _____, will drive carefully and cautiously and will be courteous to other drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians at all times.

I promise that I will obey all the rules of the road.
◆ Always wear a seat belt and make all my passengers buckle up.
◆ Obey all traffic lights, stop signs, other street signs, and road markings.
◆ Stay within the speed limit and drive safely.
◆ Never use the car to race or to try to impress others.
◆ Never give rides to hitchhikers.

I promise that I will make sure I can stay focused on driving.
◆ Drive with both hands on the wheel.
◆ Never eat, drink, or use a cell phone while I drive.
◆ Drive only when I am alert and in emotional control.
◆ Call my parents for a ride home if I am impaired in any way that interferes with my ability to drive safely.

I promise that I will respect laws about drugs and alcohol.
◆ Drive only when I am alcohol and drug free.
◆ Never allow any alcohol or illegal drugs in the car.
◆ Be a passenger only with drivers who are alcohol and drug free.

I promise that I will be a responsible driver.
◆ Drive only when I have permission to use the car and I will not let anyone else drive the car unless I have permission.
◆ Drive someone else's car only if I have parental permission.
◆ Pay for all traffic citations or parking tickets.
◆ Complete my family responsibilities and maintain good grades at school as listed here: _____

◆ Contribute to the costs of gasoline, maintenance, and insurance as listed here: _____



I agree to the following restrictions, but understand that these restrictions will be modified by my parents as I get more driving experience and demonstrate that I am a responsible driver.

For the next _____ months, I will not drive after _____ pm.
For the next _____ months, I will not transport more than _____ teen passengers (unless I am supervised by a responsible adult).
For the next _____ months, I won't adjust the stereo or air conditioning/heater while the car is moving.
For the next _____ months, I will not drive in bad weather.
I understand that I am not permitted to drive to off-limits locations or on roads and highways as listed here: _____

I agree to follow all the rules and restrictions in this contract. I understand that my parents will impose penalties (see below), including removal of my driving privileges, if I violate the contract. I also understand that my parents will allow me greater driving privileges as I become more experienced and as I demonstrate that I am always a safe and responsible driver.

I agree to the following restrictions, but understand that these restrictions will be modified by my parents as I get more driving experience and demonstrate that I am a responsible driver.

For the next _____ months, I will not drive after _____ pm.
For the next _____ months, I will not transport more than _____ teen passengers (unless I am supervised by a responsible adult).
For the next _____ months, I won't adjust the stereo or air conditioning/heater while the car is moving.
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Penalties for contract violations

Drive after drinking alcohol or using drugs	No driving for _____ months.
Get ticket for speeding or moving violation	No driving for _____ months.
Drive after night driving curfew	No driving for _____ weeks/months.
Drive too many passengers	No driving for _____ weeks/months.
Broke promise about seat belts (self and others)	No driving for _____ weeks/months.
Drive on a road or to an area that is off-limits	No driving for _____ weeks/months.

Signatures

Driver _____ Date _____

Parent promise: I also agree to drive safely and to be an excellent role model.

Parent (or guardian) _____ Date _____

Parent (or guardian) _____ Date _____

American Academy of Pediatrics
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You are Responsible

- Aim: Decrease risky driving, crashes, and teen mortality in Howard County, MD by increasing PTDA use.
- Preliminary Study: Survey the attitudes of parents and teens toward the PTDA and teen driving after signing and 6 months follow-up
- Concurrently, explore the effect of PTDA signing on risky driving habits in the new drivers.



Population

- Howard County, MD
- 12 public high schools



Community

- 70,292 residents under 18 years
 - 16,000 High School Students
 - 8,000 licensed drivers



We are Responsible Parking Permit Program





We Are Responsible – Parking Permit Program



Procedures

- Online surveys
 - Students vs. parents
 - Initial and 6 month follow-up to initial responders
- Risk factors
 - Speeding
 - Talking/texting on cell phone while driving
 - Driving with other minors without supervision



Results

- August – September 2008
- 2,793 parent teens viewed new video
- Positive response from all stakeholders



Results

Category	Teens		Parents	
	Initial (n=121)	Follow-up (n=65)	Initial (n=100)	Follow-up (n=50)
Signed/plan to sign PTDA	98 (81)	47 (72)	88 (88)	46 (79)
Believe PTDA will make/has made them a better driver ¹	69 (70)	19 (40) ²	79 (92) ³	40 (87) ³
PTDA was a positive experience ¹	-	30 (64)	-	43 (93) ³
Would feel safer if all teens on road signed PTDA	69 (57)	27 (42) ²	64 (64)	42 (72) ³
Teen has been in crash(es) ⁴	8 (7)	11 (17) ⁴	12 (12)	10 (17)
Teen has received traffic ticket(s)	3 (2)	5 (8)	3 (3)	4 (7)





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	Initial (n=121)	Follow-up (n=65)	Initial (n=100)	Follow-up (n=50)
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Category	Teens		Parents	
	Initial (n=121)	Follow-up (n=65)	Initial (n=100)	Follow-up (n=58)
Signed/plan to sign PTDA	98 (81)	47 (72)	88 (88)	40 (79)
Believe PTDA will make/has made them a better driver ¹	69 (70)	19 (40) ²	79 (82) ³	40 (67) ³
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Results

Risky driving behavior				
Use cell phone in car ⁵	23 (19)	20 (31)		
Regular speeding	23 (19)	20 (31)		
Driving unsupervised with minors ⁶	72 (60)	55 (85) ⁷		
>1 risky behavior	29 (24)	28 (43) ⁷		
Biggest risk in teen driving				
Speeding			10 (10)	7 (12)
Other teens in car			33 (33)	13 (22)
Use of cell phone			16 (16)	19 (33) ⁷
Lack of reflexes			15 (15)	11 (19)
Substance abuse			2 (2)	5 (9)
Lack of traffic knowledge			22 (22)	2 (3) ⁷
Other			2 (2)	1 (2)



Results

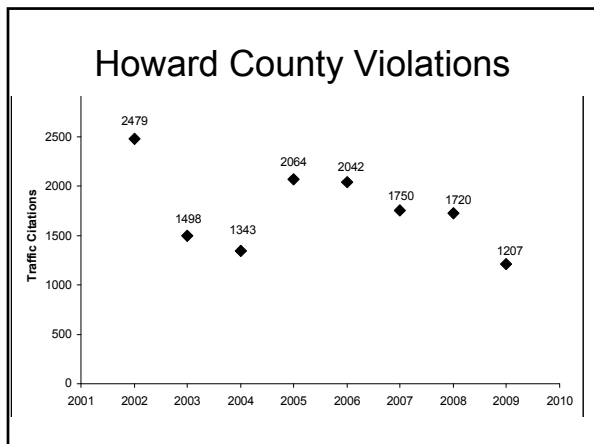
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Other			2 (2)	1 (2)

PTDA Intervention Effect on Teen Driving Behavior at 6 months

	Category	PTDA (n=42)	No PTDA (n=16)
Initial survey	>2 risky driving behaviors	10 (24)	4 (25)
	Received a ticket	1 (2)	1 (6)
	Have crashed as driver	2 (5)	1 (6)
Follow-up survey	>2 risky driving behaviors	17 (40)	6 (38)
	Received a ticket	3 (7)	2 (13)
	Have crashed as driver	8 (19)	2 (13)



You Are Responsible Parent and Guardian Survey
 The results of this survey will assist the Maryland Teen Safe Driving Coalition, a younger driver advocacy program in Maryland, to improve and better integrate student parking permit programs in Maryland.

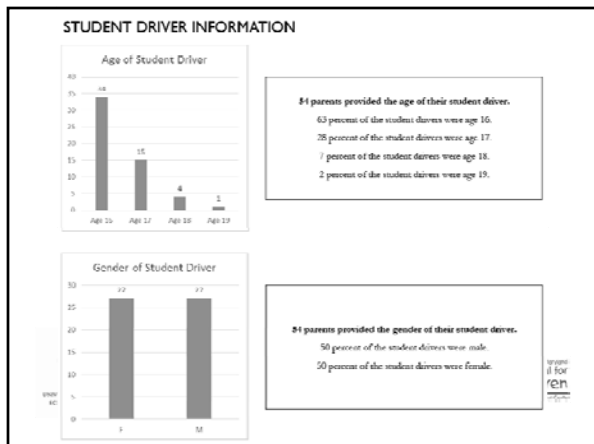
Age of Student Driver (circle one)	16	17	18	19
Gender of Student Driver (circle one)	M	F		
How long has your student driver had his or her learner's license?	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	1 year+

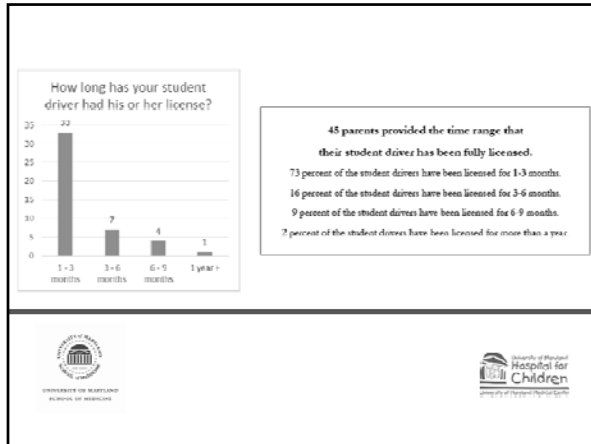
1. Maryland has an established Graduated Driver's Licensing System for new drivers. Which of the following rules did you enforce or are you currently enforcing during the first five months of licensure with your new driver?

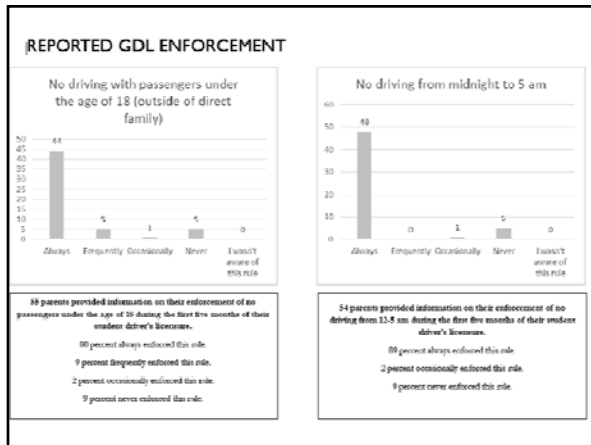
No driving with passengers under the age of all (outside of direct family)	Always <input type="radio"/>	Frequently <input type="radio"/>	Occasionally <input type="radio"/>	Never <input type="radio"/>	I wasn't aware of this rule <input type="radio"/>
No driving from midnight to 5 am	Always <input type="radio"/>	Frequently <input type="radio"/>	Occasionally <input type="radio"/>	Never <input type="radio"/>	I wasn't aware of this rule <input type="radio"/>
No using wireless communication devices, such as a cell phone (including hands free), when driving	Always <input type="radio"/>	Frequently <input type="radio"/>	Occasionally <input type="radio"/>	Never <input type="radio"/>	I wasn't aware of this rule <input type="radio"/>
All passengers are required to use seat belts in all seating positions	Always <input type="radio"/>	Frequently <input type="radio"/>	Occasionally <input type="radio"/>	Never <input type="radio"/>	I wasn't aware of this rule <input type="radio"/>

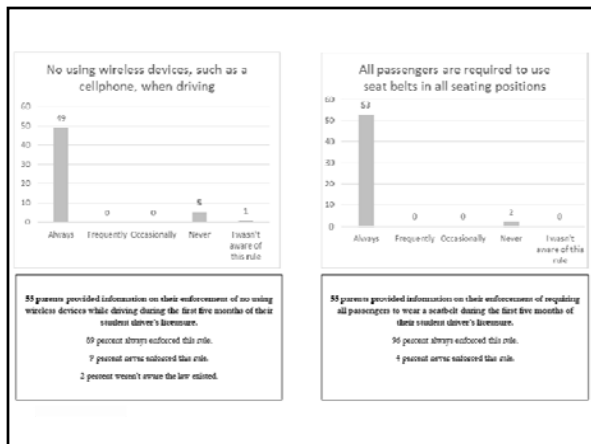
2. We would like to use the feedback from this survey to help improve student parking permit programs across the state. How supportive would you be of the following components of a student parking permit program?

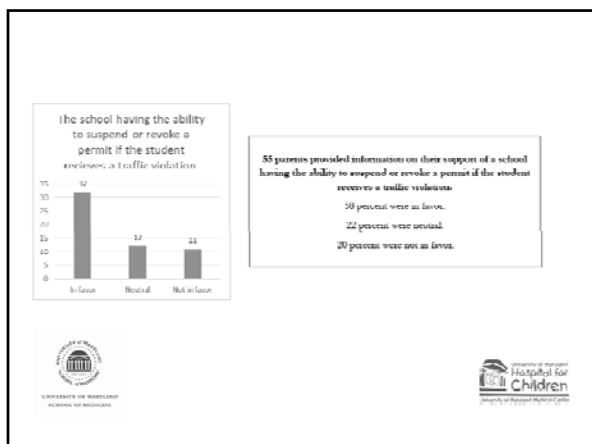
Required signing of a parent/teen driving agreement before a permit is issued to the teen driver	<input type="radio"/> In favor	<input type="radio"/> Neutral	<input type="radio"/> Not in favor
The school having the ability to suspend or revoke a permit if the student receives a traffic violation	<input type="radio"/> In favor	<input type="radio"/> Neutral	<input type="radio"/> Not in favor

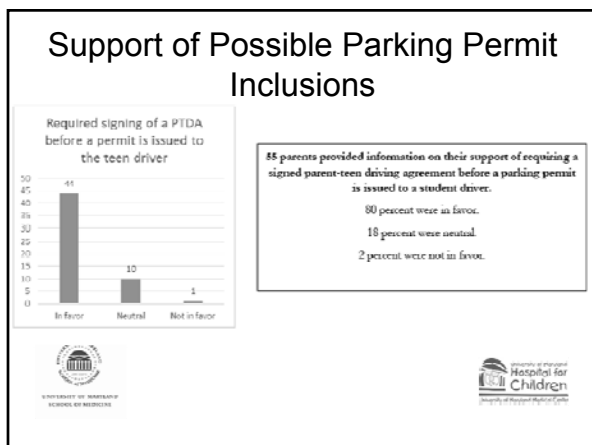












Conclusion

- Although crash/fatality rates are improving, teens are still at risk on our roads
- The GDL has been effective, and parents probably are the most effective means of enforcement.
- The Howard County Parking Permit Program is an example of enhancing parent participation and reinforcing GDL with their young drivers.

Logos for University of Maryland and Hospital for Children are at the bottom.

Questions



Pediatricians

Driving

"Learning to drive is a rite of passage for many adolescents and is a reflection of their growing independence and maturity. Adapted equipment and special driving techniques make it possible for many youth with special health care needs to drive. Health care professionals should encourage parents to be initially involved with their adolescent's driver's education by doing practice driving sessions together and by establishing rules that foster safe, responsible driving behaviors..."



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Prevention and health promotion for infants, children, adolescents, and their families™