NMPED Science Curriculum Review of Evidence

Curriculum Name: Holt Lifetime Health ©2007

Publisher: Holt, Reinhart, and Winston
Number of Studies Submitted: 1
Number of Studies Reviewed: 1
Grade(s) of Studies Reviewed: 9 – 12

Average Rubric Ratings:

Criteria	Average Rating Across All Studies
Experimental Design	1
Sample	1.5
Methodology	2
Measures	2
Studies	0
Reporting Results	1
Investigators	2
Total Score	9.5
Average Subscale Score	1.36

Narrative:
One program effectiveness study (Is the program effective in increasing students' knowledge and understanding of health?) was available for review of *HOLT LIFETIME HEALTH ©2007*. The study, done by Educational Research Institute of America (ERIA), used a pretest/posttest design over one semester with 300 students representing grades 8 – 12 in five school districts from five states. Researchers did analyses for the total group, for self-identified minority or non-minority student subgroups, for teacher-identified student socio-economic subgroups (low-SES, high-SES, and not categorized), and for four achievement level subgroups. The publisher developed summative (end-of-course) assessments as pre- and posttest measures to assess the program, and ERIA determined that the tests were reliable and valid. Paired comparison analyses used both raw scores and percent correct scores, and converted pretest and posttest scores were analyzed using comparison *t*-tests giving statistical significance. The results of the various analyses indicated:

- the average standard raw scores had statistically significant increases for the total group of students;
- the average standard scores had statistically significant increases for the students who were categorized as belonging to an ethnic minority as well as for those who were not categorized as minority group students;
- the average standard scores had statistically significant increases for the students who were categorized as economically disadvantaged as well as for those who were not categorized as economically disadvantaged; and
- all four achievement subgroups (based on pretest performance) increased their score averages significantly from pretest to posttest.

The study did not report effect sizes.

Overall Quantity and Quality of Evidence:
The only study submitted for review provides considerable evidence for the effectiveness of the program. The sample was across five school districts with considerable variation (rural, mid-size city, large city, central city and urban fringe) in five states. School districts ranged from 4% to 97% minority. The study provides disaggregation of scores only for self-reported minority or non-minority students, for teacher-identified socio-economic backgrounds, and for achievement based on pretest performance. The study is based on a one time (semester long) treatment with one measure (pre- to posttest performance). Based on this study, there is promising evidence of program efficacy of *HOLT LIFETIME HEALTH ©2007*.

References of Submitted Studies:

Educational Research Institute of America (January 2006). A Study of the Instructional Effectiveness of *HOLT LIFETIME HEALTH* ©2007, Report Number 239