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Editor's Note

Norma J. Walters R.N., Ph.D.
Auburn University

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Educators involved with health occupations education programs should constantly be aware of various assessment data available through research. This knowledge, whether related to teachers, students, graduates, or supervisors in health care agencies, can assist administrators and educators to make essential revisions in programs.

Makely, Bamberg, and Mattes reported on a follow-up study of graduates who had completed mostly a self-directed learning approach in an Add-A-Comp Program to become multiskilled health care practitioners. A majority of graduates were reported to have met the knowledge and competency levels that were expected.

' Southern, Walters, and Wilmoth assessed the perceptions of teachers regarding their educational needs relative to instructional management in health occupations programs. The highest levels of need areas as well as the highest levels of competency were identified.

In relation to teaching styles used in health occupations classrooms, Eschemann studied how students perceived their teachers style. These perceptions were collected to help identify areas of weakness.

Realizing the importance of managerial behavior and its explications for staff performance, job satisfaction, and patient care, Akroyd revealed the results of a study designed to determine the leadership styles of a group of respiratory therapy managers. Predominant leadership styles leading to significant satisfaction with supervisor behaviors were found.

In addition to assessment data collected, Richards has provided information on workplace literacy technology for nursing assistants. As reported, the technology, responsible for the obsolescence of many low-skilled jobs, was suggested to offer a means of upgrading worker's basic skills in order to obtain or to retain employment or improve employment status.

Media reviewed consists of (a) videotape on high blood pressure and its effect on the organs end other body structures as reported by Cameron; (b) a contributing to heart problems, prevention as a health duty, and arteriosclerosis and its effects on the brain as revealed by Crawford; and (c) a book review by Van Fleet on basic medical laboratory techniques which is a competency and performance-based text.

As a result of the above data, it is recommended that the information be analyzed, synthesized, and evaluated by health occupations personnel for applicability either for current or future use. Hopefully, further research will continue.

Norma J. Walters
Editor