

A Survey presented to the June 1998 national meeting of the

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL NURSES

**Regarding occurrence and treatment of head lice (*Pediculus capitis*) in
American school children**

1998 NASN SURVEY

This survey was presented to the 1998 NASN convention in San Diego, California. Surveys were handed out at the NPA booth; School Health corporation provided each respondent with a complimentary LiceMeister® comb. This survey was prepared in order to determine the attitudes and preferences of America's school nurses towards lice treatment.

QUESTION 1: Did you know about the National Pediculosis Association prior to this conference?

Yes: 539
No: 175

QUESTION 2: Have you ever heard of the NPA's LiceMeister comb?

Yes: 437
No: 259
NA: 28

If yes, where did you first learn about the comb?

Colleague: 133
Internet: 121
NPA lit: 82
Professional org.: 23
Media: 29
School nurse journal: 5
NASN: 5
Conference/convention: 15
Representative: 1
Health department: 1
Parent: 1
OSHNA : 1
Other booth: 2
School health: 2
Advertisement: 1
Work: 1
CSNO: 4
Dr. Bell: 1
SBHC meeting: 1
diagnostician: 1
Tx. Association of School Based clinics: 1
Annual meeting: 1
Exhibit: 1

QUESTION 3: Have you used the LiceMeister® comb?

Yes: 117
No: 573
No answer: 24

How would you rate the LiceMeister® comb as a screening/detection tool?

Excellent: 90
Very good: 38
Poor: 1

Ineffective: 0

.....as a tool for removal of lice and nits?

Excellent: 95
Very good: 39
Poor: 1
Ineffective: 0
Never used: 579

(Based on the number of respondents to the qualitative questions, as well as the number responding never used, it may be extrapolated that the 24 no answers to the first part of the question had used the comb, and skipped to the qualitative questions assuming that they were answering the first part by implication.)

QUESTION 4: How would you rate the other metal combs on the market?

	(blue) Acumed®?	(white) Innomed®?
Excellent:	9	9
Very good:	40	39
Poor:	207	166
Ineffective:	124	105
Never used:	108	106
No answer:	226	299

QUESTION 5: How would you rate the combs that come with the headlice treatment products?

Excellent: 19
Very good: 38
Poor: 297
Ineffective: 308
No answer: 68

QUESTION 6: Do you recommend the use of chemical treatments for head lice?

Yes: 571
No: 94
Yes & No: 10
Sometimes: 8
No answer: 31

If yes, which chemical treatment product do you recommend? (check all that apply)

A-200: 72
Clear: 171
Nix: 361
Pronto: 72
Rid: 306
All: 29
Kwell: 8
Generic: 4
Dr./pharmacist referral: 4
Step 3: 3
No answer: 145

QUESTION 7: Have you seen an increase in chemical treatment failure within the past year?

Yes: 591
 No: 95
 Sometimes: 1
 No answer: 27

If yes, have you recommended an alternative to chemical treatments?

Yes: 120 (didn't specify)
 No: 182
 No answer: 118
 LiceMeister: 11
 Mayo: 141
 Olive oil: 51
 Tea tree oil: 11
 Mineral oil: 2
 Chinese herbs: 1
 Alcohol: 3
 Vacation: 1
 Cream rinse: 2
 HairClear: 1
 Nitpicking: 39
 Vaseline: 34
 Coconut oil: 2
 Petroleum jelly: 2
 Apple cider vinegar: 1
 Dry heat: 2
 Perm: 1
 Herbal shampoo: 4
 Conditioner: 2
 Combing: 24
 Oil: 20
 Baby oil: 3
 Butter: 1
 Homeopathic: 1
 Robicomb: 1
 Hair dye: 1
 Lice out: 3
 Chemical: 1

QUESTION 8: Do you believe cases of head lice shampoo failure are due to:

Incorrect application of product: 363
 Resistant lice: 312
 Non-removal of nits: 424
 Poor hygiene: 44
 All of the above: 141
 Not cleaning home: 13
 Not combing: 1
 Use of conditioner before product: 2
 Non-treatment of family: 2
 Non-treatment of home: 1
 Parent apathy: 1
 Poor instructions: 1
 Poverty: 1
 Depression: 1
 Parent frustration: 1
 Re-exposure: 1
 Cost: 1
 No answer: 15

