

School Nurses discourage a “no nit” policy for schools (see [Research Focus](#) box).

Research Focus

“No-Nit” Policies

A study of 382 school nurses indicated that 60% of these nurses supported a “no-nit” rule of enforced absenteeism for any children with nits in the hair ([Price, Burkhart, Burkhart, et al, 1999](#)). However, recently the “no-nit” policy has become controversial, and many school systems and some state associations of pediatricians have questioned its value (see [Evidence-Based Practice](#) box).

The National Pediculosis Association* offers education and advocates a “no-nit” policy for the reentry of treated children into school (see [Translating Evidence into Practice](#) box).

Evidence-based Practice

“No-Nit” School Policies

Ask the Question

In schoolchildren, are pediculosis policies (“no-nit” policies) effective methods to decrease lice infestation?

Search for the Evidence

Search Strategies

Search terms used were: head lice in children, pediculosis, head lice and school-age children, and policies for head lice.

Databases Used

MEDLINE, PubMed, Ovid, CINAHL

Critically Analyze the Evidence

GRADE criteria: Evidence quality moderate; recommendation strong ([Guyatt, Oxman, Vist, et al, 2008](#))

To determine how often children were excluded from school