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DRIVING ASSESSMENT

Information for Clients

Why would you require a driving assessment?

A change in health, a medical condition, or an injury can sometimes affect a person's ability to drive safely, for example, a head injury, stroke, spinal cord injury, or amputation, or the ageing process.

If there are any concerns about your skills for driving, you may be referred to a Driver Trained Occupational Therapist for a driving assessment.

You will be required to provide a medical certificate and an up to date visual examination as part of the assessment.

The purpose of the assessment is to make recommendations about if, or when, you can resume driving, or whether any conditions should be placed on your driving license.

Note: The medical driving assessment is not a driver licence test.

What does the Assessment involve?

The assessment has two parts:

- An Off Road Component
- An On Road Drive

Off Road Assessment

This is designed to assess a number of areas. We need to know, for example:

- Where you normally drive?
- What type of car you drive?
- Is your Driver's Licence current?
- Are there any physical problems that may affect driving - such as limited movement, strength and co-ordination?
- Do you have any issues with your vision?

- How much do you remember about road rules and intersection rules?
- You may participate in an assessment called “DriveSafe / DriveAware.” This will review your awareness of the driving environment and your own driving ability.
- If you normally wear glasses to drive and/or read, you will need them for this assessment.
- This part of the assessment usually takes about ninety minutes.

On Road Assessment



- The On Road Assessment is undertaken in the driving instructors vehicle, which has dual controls.
- The drive is usually completed in your own area, and in unfamiliar areas, and might involve driving to places where you would normally drive. Part of the assessment drive may involve different driving situations such as an unfamiliar shopping area, suburban back streets and the motorway or highway (if appropriate).
- An occupational therapist and a driving instructor will accompany you during the drive. The driving instructor is present only to ensure safety.
- The duration of the drive will be between 45-60 minutes.
- After the assessment the Occupational Therapist will discuss your assessment performance and results with you and will write a report outlining the observations and professional recommendations.
- This report is sent to your doctor (and/or the person who asked for you to be assessed), Queensland Transport, and yourself.
- The Occupational Therapist can assist with any vehicle modifications you may require to enable you to drive safely.