

WHEN IS AN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DRIVER ASSESSMENT INDICATED?

Driving a motor vehicle is a complex task involving perception, appropriate judgement, adequate response time and appropriate physical capacity. It involves a complex and rapidly repeating cycle, which requires a level of skill and the ability to interact with both the vehicle and the external environment simultaneously (Austroads, 2012).



A wide range of medical conditions and disabilities, and their associated impairments, as well as treatments may influence these driving fundamentals and impact on your fitness to drive, some of which include:

- Diabetes
- Dementia
- Acquired Brain Injury
- Cognitive concerns
- Epilepsy and Seizures
- Stroke
- Cardiovascular conditions
- Vision and eye disorders
- Neurological conditions (ie. Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis)
- Cerebral Palsy
- Neuromuscular conditions (ie. peripheral neuropathy, muscular dystrophy)
- Musculoskeletal conditions
- Spinal injuries
- Arthritis
- Amputations
- Mental Illness or Psychiatric Conditions
- Substance misuse disorder
- Age related deterioration

Such impairments may adversely affect driving ability therefore impacting not only on your own safety as a driver, but the safety of other road users as well. Medications can also impact on your ability to safely operate a vehicle. You should discuss any concerns you may have with your doctor. It is illegal to drive if affected by medications.

**Do you know someone who would benefit from this type of assessment?
Feel free to give Occupational Focus a call on 0430 517 499 to make a referral.**

SERVICES AVAILABLE

Private Assessments for members of the general public

Services to the Insurance, Transport Accident Commission, Workers Compensation and Medicolegal market

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