

Why Choose a Driving Solutions Driver Evaluation?

Whether a driver takes the advice of family members or medical professionals, or independently determines that their driving skills have declined, a driving evaluation is often a necessary step to protect the safety of the driver and the safety of others.

From old age to newly acquired disabilities, there are many reasons why a driver should undergo a driver evaluation, including:

- The ethical responsibility to avoid harm to oneself and others
- Avoidance of potential liability from driving if a medical condition exists
- The need for a specialized adaptive equipment prescription
- The desire to prove ability to loved ones in an objective way
- Application for an HP placard that indicates MD desire for testing
- Complaint of immediate threat from a law enforcement or a medical professional to the RMV

It's The Law: Self-reporting of deteriorating driving abilities in Massachusetts

At Driving Solutions, we believe that you should drive for as long as you are safe to do so, but it is the lawful responsibility of the driver to report him or herself as an unsafe driver to the RMV.

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) policy states:

“If a licensee has a medical condition which he or she believes may affect his or her ability to operate a motor vehicle, he or she must report such condition to the Registrar and refrain from operating a motor vehicle until the condition is resolved.”

Compliance with this RMV policy by self-reporting is something that people are often reluctant to do. However, it could be an important protection for people with medical conditions that are known to affect driving ability.

What medical conditions affect driving abilities?

Conditions such as brain injury, stroke, diabetes, cerebral palsy, tumor, amputation or loss of function in either arm, or, in particular, the right leg are understood to have the potential to affect ones' driving. Other conditions affecting movement, vision, thinking, memory, coordination and balance are causes of impaired driving. Diseases such as diabetes, schizophrenia and heart disease that are controlled by a complex medication regimen can have a detrimental effect on many activities of daily living including driving.

For drivers with medical conditions there are a number of choices:

- Report the condition to the RMV

- Seek written evidence of medical clearance from an MD
- Refrain from driving until the condition is resolved
- Undergo driver evaluation.

A driver evaluation can determine whether or not the medical condition affects ones ability to operate a motor vehicle and whether or not the medical condition is resolved.

Many medical conditions can be successfully resolved during the rehabilitation process using adaptive equipment and compensatory driving strategies. As with all rehabilitation programs, the goal is maximum, safe functional ability.

Please contact the experienced professionals at www.drivingsolutionsforyou.com for any questions involving medical conditions and driving in Massachusetts.