# **Evaluating A Patients Fitness to Drive**

A medical officers guide on how and when to advise their patient and refer for further assessment

Condition diagnosed or Patient undergoes surgery and their condition has potential to impact on driving performance.

Doctor to complete Medical Fitness Certificate (MR712/MR713)

As required

Refer to Austroads Assessing Fitness to Drive (2012)

See Below for more details

# **Temporary Condition**

impact on driving Advise patient to abstain from driving for appropriate period.

Assessing Fitness to

Not required to report to DPTI but should be documented in the client's case notes

# **Long-term Condition**

no impact on driving Advise patient on monitoring and review regime if condition is progressive.

Assessing Fitness to Drive
(2012)

Not required to report to
DPTI but should be
documented in the
client's case notes

#### Long-term Condition

minimal impact on driving

Advise patient on monitoring and review regime if condition is progressive

If unclear of impact, refer to OT Driver

Assessor to assess driving ability, retraining potential and recommendations for vehicle modifications and adaptive controls

Complete <u>Medical Certificate of Fitness</u>

(MR712/MR713) for DPTI including:

- o details of condition
- criteria for unconditional driving license not met
- recommendations for conditional licence if appropriate

# Provide Medical Certificate of Fitness to patient to notify DPTI (driver's legal obligation)

Consider reporting directly to DPTI if patient is unlikely to appreciate impact of their condition on driving or to take notice of recommendation (medical practitioner's legal obligation).

DPTI makes decision regarding licence and informs driver of licence status.

#### Long-term Condition

 moderate impact on driving or unclear of the impact on driving

Advise patient not to drive until the impact on driving is clear

Refer for Specialist medical evaluation as required according to the <u>Austroads Assessing</u>
Fitness to Drive (2012)

Refer to <u>OT Driver Assessor</u> to assess driving ability, retraining potential and recommendations for vehicle modifications and adaptive controls (click on link)

Complete Medical Cortificate of Fitness

Complete Medical Certificate of Fitness (MR71/MR7132) for DPTI including:

- o details of condition
- o criteria for unconditional driving not met
- o recommendations for conditional licence
- requirements for ongoing monitoring and review
- request DPTI On-Road Driver Assessment if applicable
- o (DPTI may also seek independent advice)

### **Long-term Condition**

severe impact on driving, judged not to have potential to improve

Advise patient not to drive

Complete Medical
Certificate of Fitness

(MR712/MR713)
recommending licence
medical suspension

Refer to OT Driver

<u>Assessor</u> for retirement
from driving counselling

