

Quick Driver Checklist

Vision

Visual acuity: Right..... Left..... Binocular.....

Can they track a moving pen? Eyes have to move quickly to pick up visual information on the road.....

Do they have visual field loss? Can they respond to simultaneous stimuli? Do they need a referral to an optometrist prior to a driving assessment?

Physical ability

How does the patient mobilise to your rooms? Quick/slow/frail/stumbling

How quick are their likely reactions? Fast/slow/accurate/inaccurate

Consider foot placement, coordination and proprioception:

Useful tip: Place two stickers on the floor and ask the patient to move the right foot between the stickers without looking, simulating an accelerator and a brake pedal

Further assessment may be required if the patient is:

- Unable to move lower limbs independently or quickly between two points
- Inaccurate with foot placement, missing a position or hitting both at the same time

Do they have overall strength to operate a vehicle?

Can they turn their neck to scan fully left and right at intersections?

Cognitive ability

Can they answer simple questions independently?

Do they look to their spouse for answers?

Do they understand their medical condition?

Can they find their licence in their wallet?

Can they tell you where they drive e.g. specific shops, where they park?

Are they getting lost or taking longer to get to usual destinations?

Are there scrapes or dents on the car?

Have they had any accidents or near misses?

Are they struggling to do everyday tasks that were previously easy? Consider meals preparation, hobbies that they have stopped doing.

Are there any concerns with personal safety ie not locking up house, burning pots and leaving oven/heaters on, mixing up medications?

Do they require prompts or supervision with daily tasks?