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CENTRE FOR INNOVATIVE HUMAN SYSTEMS

PEOPLE  
PROCESS  
PERFORMANCE

VISION  
ZERO

RSA

# Launch 2025 Edition Sláinte agus Tiomáint Medical Fitness to Drive Guidelines

Prof Desmond O'Neill

7 April 2025

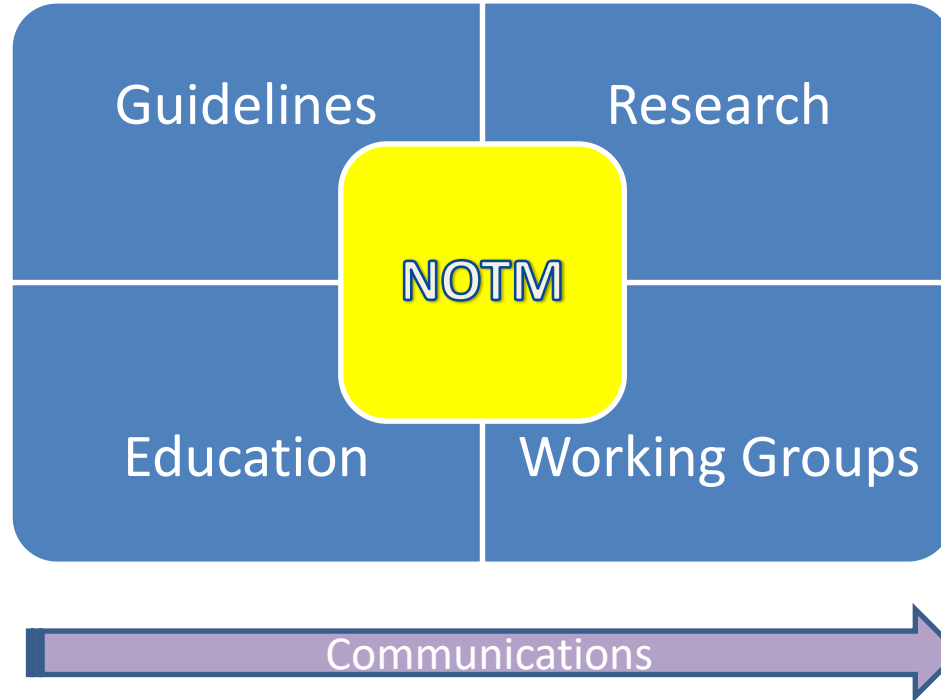




# What is Traffic Medicine?

- A relatively new specialism embracing all those disciplines, techniques, and methods aimed at reducing death and injury inflicted by traffic crashes
- Also enabling /rehabilitative in trying to ensure that transport mobility is not hampered, or rendered unsafe, by remediable illness or functional loss.





RSA 2011





“...the fatal five behaviours (drink/drugs, distraction, fatigue, speeding, safety belts) have a web of inter-acting contributory factors underpinning them and are **systems problems** rather than driver-centric problems.”

Applied Ergonomics 74 (2019) 162–171



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Applied Ergonomics

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/apergo](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/apergo)



Bad behaviour or societal failure? Perceptions of the factors contributing to drivers' engagement in the fatal five driving behaviours



Paul M. Salmon<sup>a,\*</sup>, Gemma J.M. Read<sup>a</sup>, Vanessa Beanland<sup>a</sup>, Jason Thompson<sup>b</sup>,  
Ashleigh J. Filtness<sup>c</sup>, Adam Hulme<sup>a</sup>, Rod McClure<sup>e</sup>, Ian Johnston<sup>d</sup>





# Systems

1. Parliaments and legislatures
2. Government agencies, user groups, industry associations, courts, universities
3. Operational delivery and management
4. Local management and supervision
5. Operating process and environment

*Salmon et al. Who is in control of road safety? Accid Anal Prev 2016;96:140–151*





# Complex!

- Medicine
- Allied professions
- Traffic Psychology
- Transport Engineering
- Transportation Policy
- Road Safety
- .....





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N ENGL J MED 367;13 NEJM.ORG SEPTEMBER 27, 2012

*The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE*

SPECIAL ARTICLE

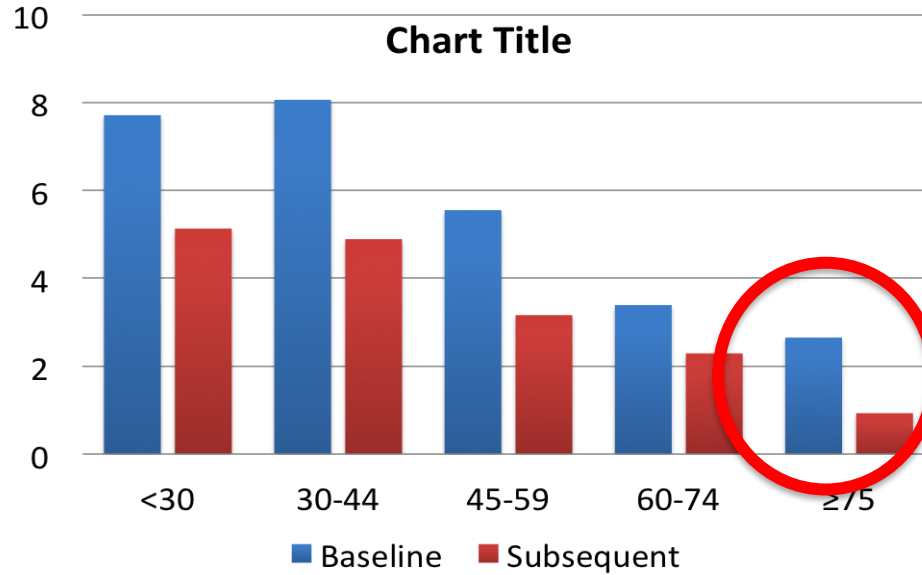
# Effective...

## Physicians' Warnings for Unfit Drivers and the Risk of Trauma from Road Crashes

Donald A. Redelmeier, M.D., M.S.H.S.R., Christopher J. Yarnell, A.B.,  
Deva Thiruchelvam, M.Sc., and Robert J. Tibshirani, Ph.D.

...a reduction of approximately 45% in the annual rate of crashes  
per 1000 patients





Crashes/1,000/year by age







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# Broad Vision Critical

Traffic Injury Prevention, 9:367–378, 2008  
Copyright © 2008 Taylor & Francis Group, LLC  
ISSN: 1538-9588 print / 1538-957X online  
DOI: 10.1080/15389580801895285



Taylor & Francis  
Taylor & Francis Group

## It Cannot Be All about Safety: The Benefits of Prolonged Mobility

JENNIFER OXLEY and MICHELLE WHELAN

Accident Research Centre, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia





# Background

- NOTM programme unique in getting buy-in voluntarily from the Irish medical profession and other healthcare disciplines.
- A critical element has been the assurance that guidelines are evidence-based to the greatest extent possible.
- In addition, a CPD/Educational Programme.





# 2024-5 Update

- Comprehensive review of updates of research from 2022-2024 in the field:
  - 312 relevant papers
- Feedback from the many medical and health professional disciplines involved in our Working Group.
- Comparison with updates in other national guidelines.
- External review and suggestions by an international expert in the field.





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## CIECA Report Medical Fitness to Drive Final summarising report

Final / August 2020

CIECA Topical Group on Fitness to Drive

Subgroup 2: Setting Standards for the Evaluation of Medical Fitness to Drive

CIECA

The International Commission for Driver Testing  
Avenue de Tervueren 36-38 | 1040 Brussels | [info@cieca.eu](mailto:info@cieca.eu)



ACCIDENT  
RESEARCH  
CENTRE

## INFLUENCE OF CHRONIC ILLNESS ON CRASH INVOLVEMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVERS: 3<sup>RD</sup> EDITION Integrated Report



MARCH 2021  
REPORT NO. 353

INFLUENCE OF CHRONIC ILLNESS ON MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH RISK I



Driver & Vehicle  
Licensing  
Agency

## Assessing fitness to drive – a guide for medical professionals



[www.gov.uk/dvla/fitnesstodrive](http://www.gov.uk/dvla/fitnesstodrive)

August 2024





- Inclusion of guidance on the processes for rehabilitation of return to driving, as well as advice on how to manage the challenges for clinicians of advising driving cessation.
- Inclusion of guidance on psychogenic non-epileptic seizures (PNES)
- Clarification on Primary/Central Hypersomnias.
- Updated advice on cardiac catheter ablation.
- Clarification of Insulin-Treated Diabetes for Group 1 and Group 2 drivers related to Interstitial glucose monitoring systems.





- Clarification of Developmental Disorders for Group 1 drivers.
- Clarification of diagnostic criteria for Alcohol Misuse and Alcohol Dependence.
- Inclusion of guidance for Blepharospasm
- Clarification of Night Blindness for Group 1 and Group 2 drivers.
- Updated guidance for Cough Syncope
- Clarification for monitoring of treatment efficacy in Obstructive Sleep Apnoea Syndrome in Group 1 drivers.
- Clarification of All Cancers not already covered in earlier sections







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# Shared responsibilities – Key





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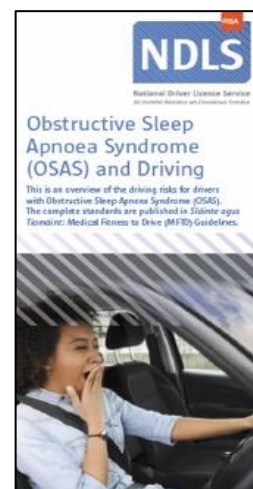
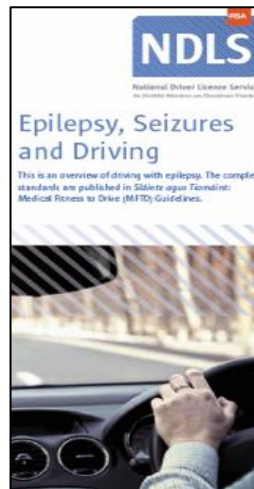
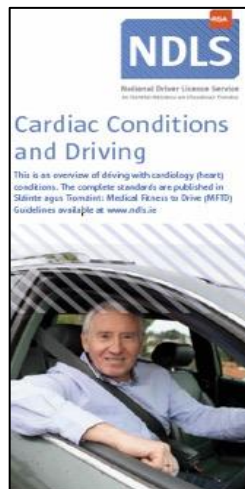
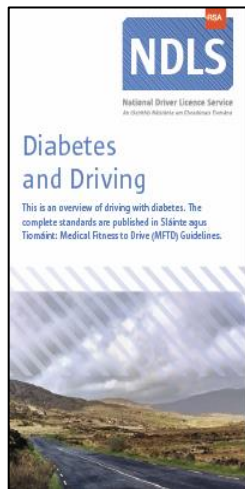
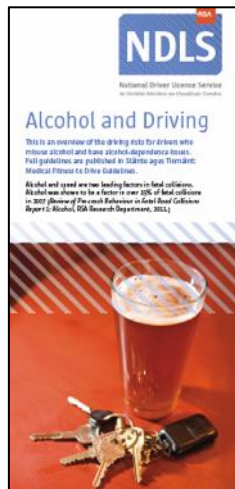
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# Health and Driving Leaflets







# Strategy to support clinicians

- High-quality, regularly updated guidelines
- CPD and postgraduate education programme
- Supported by research and liaison with international expertise
- Low threshold for a second opinion
- Public education





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# Sláinte agus Tiomáint

## Medical Fitness to Drive Guidelines

### CPD Course

### 2025



3 CPD

Register here for online course

