

Medical Conditions and Driver Licensing Requirements

*“Working with
drivers to make
our roads safer”*



- Your health & driving
- Filing medical reports
- Medical review committee



**Manitoba
Public Insurance**

Medical Conditions and Driver Licensing Requirements

Driving is one of the most complex things that people do. To drive well takes skill and good judgement. Any health problem may affect your driving—a bad cold, an infection, or a sore leg.

For your safety and others'...

With short-term illnesses, you must decide for yourself, or in conjunction with your physician, if you can drive safely. However, with long-term physical and mental conditions that can affect driving, we share in making this decision in the interest of public safety.

Medical conditions and disabilities of particular concern include:

- conditions that may affect alertness, memory, learning and judgement
- physical disabilities
- mental disorders
- vision problems
- alcohol or drug abuse

Our Medical Records office assesses medical information concerning a driver's medical fitness to drive safely. Assessments are made according to the Medical Standards for Drivers.

Physicians' and optometrists' responsibilities:

In Manitoba, physicians and optometrists are required by law to report drivers with medical conditions that may affect their ability to drive safely.

Physicians and optometrists provide us medical information and sometimes make recommendations about a patient's ability to drive. However, we're responsible for acting on this medical information.



Questions & Answers

If I have a medical condition what should I do about my driver's licence?

Discuss with your physician whether your medical condition affects your driving. Be honest with yourself and your physician.

Contact our Medical Records office to find out what is required in your case.

Declare your medical condition, or any change in your medical condition, on your licence application only if you haven't reported it before.

What happens after my medical condition is reported to your Medical Records office?

Usually a medical or vision report is requested, depending on the medical problem. Some situations warrant the suspension of a driver's licence until complete medical information is received, including test results.

Who must file medical reports?

Drivers holding class 1–4 licences (i.e. professional drivers) must file mandatory medical reports.

The frequency at which reports are required varies based on a driver's age. It also increases depending on the driver's medical condition.

Drivers holding class 5 licences do not file mandatory medical reports unless they have a medical condition that may affect their ability to drive safely.

What happens after I file a medical report?

One or more of the following may happen:

- The report may be approved, possibly with more medical reports requested in the future.
- More information on your medical condition may be requested.
- A driving restriction may be placed on your licence.
- A driver's test may be requested.
- An Occupational Therapist at the Health Sciences Centre Rehabilitation Hospital may be asked to conduct a driver's assessment.
- Your licence may be **reclassified** to a lower licence class for failure to meet the medical standards.
- Your licence may be **suspended** until further information is filed.
- Your licence may be **cancelled** for failure to meet the medical standards.

We make every effort to permit drivers with medical conditions to keep their driving privileges, provided road safety is not compromised.

If your licence is cancelled (not suspended) for failure to meet the medical standards, you may appeal the decision to the Medical Review Committee.

What is the Medical Review Committee?

It's an independent body whose purpose is to review our decision about a driver's medical fitness to drive safely.

The Committee comprises physicians, health professionals and members of the public.

The Committee determines whether the medical standards were appropriately applied and whether an exception should be made without compromising public safety.

The Committee can confirm, quash or vary our decision.

Are seniors required to file medical reports or complete driver tests when they reach a certain age?

No. Manitoba does not require class 5 drivers to complete medical reports or driver tests based on age.

What do I do if I no longer wish to drive?

You may return your driver's licence to your Autopac agent, nearest Manitoba Public Insurance Service Centre or mail your driver's licence to the following address with a letter of explanation. The letter must be signed before any unused portion of the driver's licence basic insurance premium is refunded.

If you still require photo identification, you may apply (at no charge) for a Manitoba Identification Card or Manitoba Enhanced Identification Card.



For more information about Medical Conditions and Driver Licensing Requirements, contact:

**Manitoba Public Insurance
Medical Records**

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Website: www.mpi.mb.ca



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