

1. Introduction and Who Guideline applies to

*Brief explanation of purpose of guideline **and users**, i.e. does it cover all staff, specific groups of staff or specific patient groups and in what circumstances i.e. when*

Doctors have a duty to alert patients to conditions and treatments which might affect their ability to drive and remind them of their duty to tell the appropriate agency. The General Medical Council (GMC) advises doctors to consult the guidance issued by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) when assessing a patient's fitness to drive. The GMC also advises doctors to document any advice about fitness to drive in the patient's medical records.

As per our baseline audit, documentation regarding fitness to drive for patients discharged from the ED is poor. In addition, the majority of ED clinicians do not feel confident advising patients about fitness to drive.

This guidance is one of several components of an intervention implemented through a departmental Quality Improvement Project (QIP) which aims to improve the documentation and quality of advice provided to patients who are discharged from the Emergency Department (ED) or the Emergency Decision Unit (EDU). It will serve as a quick reference tool for clinicians working in ED and EDU.

2. Guideline Standards and Procedures

This section may include or comprise a flow chart but in any event should be set out in a logical order.

The tool is a flow chart which aids decision-making about fitness to drive advice for patients discharged from ED or EDU. The tool is derived from the guidance issued by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) and updated in 2019.

3. Education and Training

Are there any new skills required to implement the guideline? Is a training programme being provided to support implementation or is it more a case of 'awareness raising'?

If there are no education or training requirements please state 'None'.

No new skills are required to implement the tool. Teaching sessions to disseminate the tool and familiarise ED clinicians with its use will be carried out.

4. Monitoring Compliance

What will be measured to monitor compliance	How will compliance be monitored	Monitoring Lead	Frequency	Reporting arrangements
Frequency and appropriateness of documented fitness to drive advice provided to patients discharged from ED and EDU.	Regular audits to patients' medical notes.	Dr. Amin Albahari	2-3 monthly	Audit reports

5. Supporting References (maximum of 3)

Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (2019). *assessing fitness to drive - a guide for medical professionals*

(https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/783444/assessing-fitness-to-drive-a-guide-for-medical-professionals.pdf

accessed 6th August 2019)

6. Key Words

List of words, phrases that may be used by staff searching for the Guidelines on PAGL. If none – state none.

DVLA, fitness to drive, driving.

CONTACT AND REVIEW DETAILS	
Guideline Lead (Name and Title) Dr. Kate Russ, Emergency Physician. Dr. Amin Albahari, Emergency Registrar.	Executive Lead Rachel Marsh
Details of Changes made during review: None – new Guideline	

Fitness to Drive

Refer to the full DVLA guidance for further information

A guide for use in ED and EDU

Doctors have a duty to alert patients to conditions and treatments which might affect their ability to drive and also remind them of their duty to inform the Driver and Vehicles Licensing Agency (DVLA).

The DVLA's guideline is much longer and includes conditions we wouldn't encounter in the ED or EDU. This tool has, therefore, been created as a simplified version of that guideline to be used by Emergency Medicine clinicians.

Use this tool for patients you plan to discharge from ED or EDU.

How to use this tool?

1. Document the driving status of your patient and the type of license in your medical notes.
 - 1 Car and Motorcycle
 - 2 Bus and Lorry
2. Follow the algorithms below to identify the condition/complaint which your patient presented with.
3. Refer to the Key to find out the DVLA's advice regarding your patient (this may differ based on the type of license of your patient - see Point 1 above).

Must not drive AND must inform DVLA	Allowed to drive BUT must inform DVLA
Must not drive BUT need not inform DVLA	Allowed to drive AND need not inform DVLA
4. Please document the advice you've provided the patient (this is a GMC requirement).

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(This is an embedded link, please click on it to access the full flowchart)