

## **DriveABLE™**

### **Help When Driving is an Issue**

#### **Even the best drivers can become unsafe.**

Every driver with a progressive dementia will eventually have to stop driving. Many other medical conditions also can reduce driving skills to an unsafe level (e.g. cardiovascular disease, renal disease, diabetes, and stroke). At the same time, just having a diagnosis of a potentially impairing medical condition does not mean that the person is unsafe to drive.

Research has shown that the driving issue is one of the most difficult for physicians, families, and the person. With an illness such as Alzheimer Disease, the decline in abilities is gradual and without a clear change indicating when the person is no longer safe to drive. This is true for many other medical conditions as well. There is reason for concern about drivers with medical conditions that affect cognition. Drivers with changes in cognition are 5 to 7 times more likely to be in a crash, and the crash most often involves another vehicle or pedestrian.

#### **Warning signs**

- Close calls
- Driving too slowly
- Getting lost or confused
- Unaware of driving errors
- Decline in doing everyday tasks
- Missing traffic signs
- Other drivers often honk
- Unaware of other vehicles
- Confusing the brake and gas pedals
- Lack of insight can be especially problematic

The medically impaired driver is an important public safety concern. The uncertainty about driving safety can lead to family conflict. An objective, arm's-length driving evaluation reduces the burden on families.

#### **DriveABLE™ provides an accurate arms-length decision.**

The DriveABLE™ assessment was developed through almost a decade of award winning university research. The result of that research is the DriveABLE™ Assessment: A driver assessment that accurately identifies drivers who are no longer safe to drive, yet protects competent and safe drivers from being misidentified. DriveABLE™ was developed specifically for persons with cognitive decline and/or minor physical problems.

#### **What is the DriveABLE™ Assessment?**

The DriveABLE™ assessment has both In-Office testing and In-Car evaluation components. Both components were developed through science.

##### **The DriveABLE™ In-Office Assessment**

- A DriveABLE™ trained and certified professional guides the client through the assessment.
- Touch screen/push button responses provide measurement precision in a non-threatening environment.
- Specific tasks assess the mental and motor skills required for safe driving.
- Successful performance requires mental abilities important for safe driving (memory, judgment, decision-making, attention, and motor speed abilities).

##### **The DriveABLE™ On-Road Evaluation**

- Road evaluations are given on a specially designed road course in a dual-brake automobile for safety.
- Specialized evaluators are DriveABLE™ trained and certified.
- Scoring procedures identify unsafe drivers while enabling experienced competent drivers to pass.
- Research has demonstrated fairness for both urban and rural drivers.

## **The DriveABLE™ Report**

The assessment report includes an explicit recommendation. The report was developed in consultation with medical professionals and licensing authorities to provide the necessary information in a clear, concise and useable format. The assessment recommendation is available within two working days or sooner if required.

## **Demonstrated Fair for Urban and Rural Drivers**

DriveABLE™ is equally fair for rural and urban drivers. The research demonstrating this compared the DriveABLE™ outcome for a large sample of urban and rural drivers carefully matched on medical diagnosis, level of cognitive decline, sex, and age. The success and fail rate was the same for the two matched groups. The science assures the fairness of the DriveABLE™ assessment, regardless of the driver's usual driving environment.

## **Who should be sent to DriveABLE™?**

Drivers of all ages whose driving competence is questionable due to a medical condition(s), medication(s), and/or a natural decline affecting mental abilities are appropriate referrals. Persons with physical disabilities requiring minor vehicle modifications may be accepted on an individual case basis.

Site name and address

phone:

fax:

Additional information about DriveABLE™ can be found at **[www.driveable.com](http://www.driveable.com)**