MARIAN ENGELBRECHT OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST



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Tranquility centre

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Supporting you on your driving journey

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Driving Self-Assessment

This self-assessment is not a formal assessment, but a method that can help you to evaluate your own driving and identify any safety issues. It is for you to complete on your own or with your loved one. The questions should be answered as objectively as possible.

Driving history and behaviors

Did you get lost while driving in a relatively tamiliar environment?	Yes □	No □
Do you have difficulty operating the controls (e.g. pedals, indicators, clutch) of your	V □	N
vehicle?	Yes □	No □
Do you think you are slower than you used to be when reacting to driving situations?	Yes □	No □
Have you had any close calls, scrapes or accidents while driving?	Yes □	No □
Do you get easily flustered/anxious in heavy/unanticipated traffic?	Yes □	No □
Do people hoot at you while you drive?	Yes □	No □
Do you get nervous at intersections because there is so much to watch out for?	Yes □	No □
Do other cars appear from nowhere?	Yes □	No □
Do you find it difficult to change lanes?	Yes 🗆	No □
Have you stopped driving in certain circumstances e.g. night driving, peak hour traffic,	Yes □	No □
highways?	163 🗆	ПО
Have your family/friends expressed concern about your driving?	Yes □	No □
How would you rate your own driving?	•	
1 - Excellent		
2 - Good		
3 - Fair		
4 - Not so good anymore		
5 – I should consider driving retirement/My family has suggested that I stop driving		

Vision

Do you find it harder to read road signs than you are used to?	Yes 🗆	No □
Do you struggle with glare from oncoming headlights?	Yes □	No □
Do you have trouble seeing/noticing pedestrians or cyclists?	Yes □	No □
Do you find it difficult to change your visual focus when looking ahead in the distance	Yes □	No □
and then close-up at the instrument panels in the car?	165 🗆	NO L
Do you have more trouble than before in judging distances with other cars and how fast	Yes □	No □
they are moving?	165 🗆	110 🗆
Do you hit the curb by mistake while turning right or left, or make your turns too wide or	Yes □	No □
too narrow?	165 🗆	110 🗆
Physical mobility		·
Do you find it more difficult to turn your head to see over your shoulder than you used to?	Yes 🗆	No □
Do you struggle to grip and turn the steering wheel more than you used to?	Yes □	No □
Do you struggle to feel where the pedals are with your feet?	Yes □	No □
Do you have difficulty in using the foot pedals?	Yes □	No □
Do you struggle to turn the keys in the ignition or put your safety belt on?	Yes □	No □
Attention and focus		
Do you have trouble concentrating when driving?	Yes 🗆	No □
Do you feel more tired after, or while driving than you used to?	Yes □	No □
Do you feel that your reactions are slower or that you take longer to respond to traffic situations?	Yes 🗆	No □

Judgement and making decisions

Do you find it more challenging to drive on high speed roads, or in busy traffic?	Yes □	No □
Do you find it more difficult to decide when it is safe to go and when to wait at intersections or turns?	Yes □	No □
Do you struggle to make fast decisions and act appropriately to the traffic conditions?	Yes □	No □
Do you drive slower than other cars, even when there is little traffic?	Yes □	No □

Emotional

Do you feel anxious when you are driving to the point where you feel it affect driving?	ts your Yes □ No [
Do you have less confidence when driving and worry about being in an accid	dent? Yes 🗆 No 🛭	

If you answered yes to any of the questions and feel that certain changes affect your driving, you may consider the following:

- A comprehensive driving evaluation with an occupational therapist.
- Ohanging how and where you drive see handout on Tips for safe driving.
- Car adaptations sometimes small changes can make a big difference.
- Oriving retirement and transportation planning. See handout on transportation planning

Vision

Regular check-ups with your ophthalmologist are recommended for early diagnosis and treatment of possible eye conditions. Certain neurological conditions may affect vision and will need further evaluation and management. Your occupational therapist can provide a vision screening and assess for neurological deficits that may impact driving. Certain adaptations to your car may assist where there are existing visual problems.

Physical mobility

Exercising and stretching is important to maintain good strength and flexibility for driving. Certain adaptations can be made to your car to make driving a little easier and less painful. Your Occupational therapist can give you advice on what may be helpful.

Tiredness/fatigue

Lack of sufficient sleep, medications or medical conditions causing fatigue can decrease your concentration. Consult your doctor if you are worried about the effects of your medication. Monitor yourself and do not drive when fatigued. People with Parkinson's disease may have periods when their medication wears off and should be aware if/when this happens.

Anxiety

Being very anxious may impair your ability to concentrate which can lead to errors while driving. Consider the reasons behind your anxiety.

Medical self-assessment

Please answer by ticking yes or no or unsure to the following questions

Have you had a blackout in the last 12 months?	Yes □	No □ Unsure □
Do you have a history of heart problems (e.g. heart failure, bypass, valve replacement) or a heart attack?	Yes □	No □ Unsure □
Have you had a stroke/TIA?	Yes □	No □ Unsure □
Do you have diabetes that requires medication?	Yes □	No □ Unsure □
Do you have severe arthritis or stiffness in joints that limits movement?	Yes □	No □ Unsure □
Do you have a neurological condition that is progressive ((e.g. Parkinson's disease, Multiple Sclerosis, Dementia, Alzheimer's disease)	Yes □	No □ Unsure □
Do you have any other neurological conditions (e.g. Epilepsy, brain tumour, hydrocephalus)	Yes □	No □ Unsure □
Do you have a mental health condition (e.g. Anxiety, depression, schizophrenia)	Yes 🗆	No □ Unsure □
Do you have a chronic sleep disorder (e.g. sleep apnoea, narcolepsy)	Yes □	No □ Unsure □
Do you have an alcohol or drug disorder?	Yes □	No □ Unsure □
Do you have any eye/vision disorders (e.g. cataracts, glaucoma, macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy)	Yes □	No □ Unsure □
Do you take any medication that may affect your driving? (e.g. anti-histamines, medication that causes drowsiness)	Yes 🗆	No □ Unsure □

If you have answered yes/unsure to any of these questions and have not consulted your doctor about your driving with these medical conditions, you are advised make an appointment and take this form with you.