



Drivers Licence Medical Update

Registered Nurses can complete the drivers medical for enrolled patients in full, freeing up valuable GP time.

Changes to Drivers Licence Medicals

Since 2018 the wording of the NZTA drivers medical changed to 'health practitioner'. This means that appropriately qualified and registered health practitioners, working within their scope of practice, can assess a patient's ability to drive. This includes Registered Nurses.

Who must have a medical certificate

Some drivers must have a medical or eyesight certificate to apply for or renew a driver licence or endorsement – drivers who:

- are applying for or renewing a heavy vehicle license (class 2,3,4,5) and who've not provided a certificate within the last five years
- are applying for or renewing endorsements for passengers (P), vehicle recovery services (V), driving instruction (I) or testing (O) and who've not provided a certificate within the last five years
- have a medical condition that may affect their ability to drive safely
- are 75 years old or more and applying for or renewing any license or endorsement
- NZTA have asked to provide one.

Concerns about elderly drivers?

If you are satisfied that an older person (75 years +) is medically fit but have concerns about their ability to drive : you can recommend that they sit an on-road safety test.

On-road safety test

Simply tick the box for this recommendation on the NZTA pre-printed medical form. The driver licensing agent will then arrange the test when the person presents their medical certificate.

NB: The licensing system relies on health practitioners to assess their patient's medical fitness to drive not only at the time of licence and endorsement application and renewal, but also in between licensing applications.

Useful Link

[NZTA – Drivers License](#)