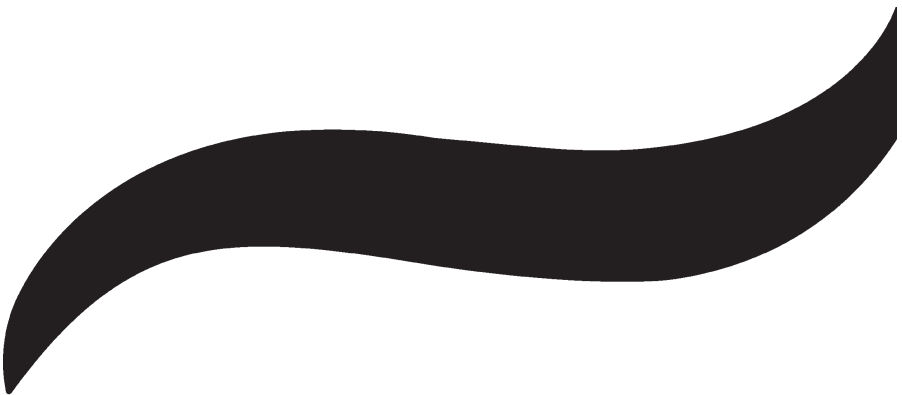




Driving and the DVLA

Information for patients



You have been given this leaflet as your doctor or liver nurse specialist thinks you have a condition that affects how you are able to drive.

If you have a driving license, you must let the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) know about your condition. You should not drive while you are waiting for their assessment and advice.

You must let the DVLA know if you have any of the following conditions:

- ❖ Persistent alcohol misuse (drinking harmful amounts of alcohol)
- ❖ Alcohol dependence (needing alcohol to function)
- ❖ Alcohol related seizures (fits)
- ❖ Alcohol related memory impairment (difficulty remembering things)
- ❖ Any episodes of Hepatic Encephalopathy (confusion due to your liver condition) regardless of the cause of your liver disease

You are breaking the law if you have a driving license and do not let the DVLA know that you have been diagnosed with one or more of these conditions. If you do not let them know, the DVLA can fine you up to £1000. You might not be covered by your car insurance, meaning you would not be protected if you were in an accident.

We advise you to discuss your own situation with the DVLA honestly, as they decide whether you are fit to drive. If they decide you are not allowed to drive, you might be able to get your licence back in future. This depends on what category of licence you have, how your condition progresses and any recovery you make.

Health professionals have a duty of care to both you and to the general public. We may need to inform the DVLA, even without your permission, if it is in the best interests of other road users.

We do understand that if you drive as either part of your daily routine or as part of your job, this information may be upsetting. However, we are responsible for letting you know about the DVLA's rules.

This is to make sure that you and the public are kept safe.

Further information is available at
www.gov.uk/health-conditions-and-driving
or call the DVLA on **0300 7906806**.

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