

## Neuro-Oncology Service

# DVLA driving regulations

This factsheet explains the rules on driving for people diagnosed with a brain tumour.

The driving regulations are issued by the **Driving and Vehicle Licensing Authority** (DVLA) in Swansea. If for medical reasons you are not fit to drive, the DVLA will take your licence from you. They will issue you with a new one once you are declared fit to drive again by your doctor. You do not have to re-take your driving test. The DVLA will contact your specialist and will take each decision on an individual basis depending on what your doctor says about your level of fitness and risk of further symptoms.

### Informing the DVLA about a medical condition

By law you must inform the DVLA if you have had, or currently suffer from a medical condition or disability that may affect your driving including:

- Problems with your nervous system
- Treatment or weakness that prevents normal daily activities
- Medication that causes side effects likely to affect safe driving

You will also need to provide details if you develop a new condition or disability or one that has become worse since your licence was issued. **Failure to notify the DVLA is a criminal offence and may result in a fine of up to £1000.**

### For further information contact:

#### The DVLA Drivers Medical Group

DVLA, Swansea SA99 1TU

**Telephone:** 0870 600 0301: Monday to Friday 0800–1730 hours and Saturday 0800–1300 hours

**Fax:** 0845 850 0095

**Email:** [eftd@dvla.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:eftd@dvla.gsi.gov.uk)

**Internet:** [www.dvla.gov.uk](http://www.dvla.gov.uk)

## Local contact:

### DVLA Local Office - Peterborough

DVLA, 88 Lincoln Road, Peterborough PE1 2ST

**Local office helpline:** 0870 850 0007

**Text phone & Minicom users:** 01792 766 426

## Opening hours

Normally open from 0900 to 1700 hours Monday to Friday and 0930 to 1700 hours on the second Wednesday of each month.

## Brain tumours and driving

You **may not** be allowed to drive for a while after you have had a brain tumour. This will depend on the type of brain tumour you had and where it was in the brain.

**You must inform the DVLA of your condition. Below are some of the guidelines that the DVLA issue.**

### Fits

- You cannot drive for at least a year after you have had a fit at any point.

### Exceptions:

- If you have a fit while asleep and haven't previously had a sleeping fit then you will have to stop driving for a year.
- An exception may be made if your fit was brought on by surgery and you fulfil all other criteria that means you are safe to drive. In these circumstances, the DVLA would look at your individual case and medical circumstances before making a ruling.

## Tumour types

If you have had a benign brain tumour in the **hind brain** or **brain stem** you can drive again as soon as you are over your treatment. You can keep your 'up to 70 years old' licence.

If you have had an **acoustic neuroma** or **schwannoma**, you do not have to tell the DVLA at all unless it has caused any dizziness.

If you have had any other type of benign brain tumour anywhere else in your brain, you cannot drive for a year. Then you will be given a short term licence (probably for three years). After three years, you will be assessed again, and may have your 'until 70 years old' licence returned.

If you have had a **benign meningioma**, restrictions apply only if you have had surgery. You may be allowed to drive again after six months, provided you haven't had any fits. The only exception to this is if you have had a fit while you were sleeping and have previously had a fit during sleep, with a three year period after it that was free from waking fits.

## Pituitary tumours

The DVLA will need medical evidence that you are fit to drive. However, generally speaking you can drive again once you are fully recovered no matter how your tumour was treated.

## Glioma

This includes astrocytoma, ependymoma, dendroglioma, oligodendroglioma and glioblastoma multiforme.

If you had a grade one or two glioma, you cannot drive for a year. After a year your situation will be reviewed and you may get your licence back.

If you had a grade three or four glioma, you cannot drive for two years **after your treatment is complete** after which your situation will be reviewed. In some circumstances, the DVLA will say you cannot drive for longer than two years before they review your licence. All of these decisions are taken after consulting your specialist and for medical reasons.

## Medulloblastoma

If you have had a low grade medulloblastoma that was completely removed with surgery, you cannot drive for a year. Your situation will then be reviewed by the DVLA.

## Other tumours

If you have any brain tumour, other than those listed above, you cannot drive for two years.

If you are in doubt about any of the above, please ask for our advice.

Please ask if you require this information in other languages, large print or audio format:  
01223 216032 or patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Potete chiedere di ottenere queste informazioni in altre lingue, in stampato grande o in audiocassetta.

## Italian

若你需要本信息的繁體中文、大字體或音訊格式的版本，請要求索取。

## Cantonese

तमने आ माहिती बीछू भाषाओमां, मोटा अक्षरोमां अथवा सांभणी शकाय जेवा माध्यम  
(ओडीओ डोमेट)मां जेठनी छोय तो कृपा करीने पूछो.

## Gujarati

تکایہ پرسیار بگہ نہ گہر نہ و زانیاریہت دہوی بہ زمانیکی تر , بہ پیتی گہورہ یانیش بہ شیوہی دہنگ

## Kurdish

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات دوسری زبانوں میں، بڑے الفاظ کی اشاعت میں یا آڈیو ٹیپ پر درکار ہوں تو براہ کرم ہماری اس کیلئے درخواست کریں۔

## Urdu

**This leaflet is awaiting review by the Trust Reader Panel.**



Addenbrooke's is smoke-free. Please do not smoke anywhere on the site.

For advice on quitting, contact your GP or the NHS smoking helpline free, 0800 169 0 169

## Document history

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