

IS CONFIDENTIALITY A CONCERN?

Wisconsin has an open records law which means that behavior report information is available to the reported driver. If this is a concern, you might want to discuss your concerns with the driver and suggest that the person stop driving or see a physician (MD/DO), PA-C or APNP.

The physician (MD/DO), PA-C or APNP may be willing to send in a report. If you have good reason to remain confidential and will not provide information otherwise, you may complete form MV3454, Pledge of Confidentiality. You must sign form MV3454 in the presence of a DMV representative before the information is accepted.

WHEN MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS REPORT

Wisconsin does not have a mandatory reporting law, but a physician (MD/DO), PA-C or APNP may report concerns about the driving ability of a patient to Wisconsin DMV without informed consent of the patient. This concern applies to any patient whose physical or mental condition may affect the ability to safely operate a motor vehicle, based on the physician's judgment.

Reports from health care providers are considered confidential because they contain medical information; however the information is available to the driver.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT REPORTING MEDICALLY-IMPAIRED DRIVERS, CONTACT:

Wisconsin DOT Division of Motor Vehicles
Medical Review Unit
P. O. Box 7918
Madison, WI 53707-7918
Email: dmvmedical@dot.wi.gov
Telephone: (608) 266-2327
Fax: (608) 267-0518
Web: <http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/dmv/license-drvs/mdcl-cncrns/med-concerns.aspx>



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Be Safe, Not Sorry



WHEN YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT A MEDICALLY-IMPAIRED DRIVER

If you know someone who could be dangerous behind the wheel because of a medical condition, you may report your concern to the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Medical Review Unit.

You may obtain form MV3141 *Driver Condition or Behavior Report* by visiting <http://wisconsin.gov/Pages/dmv/license-drvs/rcd-crsh-rpt/driver-forms.aspx>, by contacting the Medical Review Unit directly (contact information on back) to have the form mailed to you or by going to your local DMV Service Center.

A SAFETY CONSIDERATION

It is not an easy decision to report a relative or friend to the DMV, but concern for the driver's safety and the safety of others should be the deciding factor.

HOW THE WISCONSIN DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES (DMV) MAKES A DECISION

DMV cares about a driver's functional ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. Decisions about impaired drivers are based on individual signs, symptoms, behaviors and the observations of others rather than the type of condition or diagnosis.

The issue is whether a medical condition affects the ability of a driver to drive safely.

SIGNS OF IMPAIRMENT

- » Confusion
- » Disorientation
- » Memory loss
- » Impaired judgment
- » Extreme exhaustion
- » Difficulty making simple decisions
- » Chronic drowsiness
- » Impaired response/reaction time
- » Inability to concentrate
- » Impulsive behaviors
- » Severe shortness of breath
- » Episodes of impaired or altered consciousness

CONDITIONS THAT MAY CAUSE IMPAIRMENT:

- » Alzheimer's and other types of dementia
- » Diabetes, if frequent episodes of low blood sugar (hypoglycemia) occur
- » Neurological conditions such as seizure disorders
- » Sleep disorders
- » Behavioral or mental disorders
- » Respiratory (lung) diseases
- » Cardiovascular (heart) disease
- » Visual impairments

WHAT IS NEEDED FOR DMV TO ACT?

- » Positive identification of the driver. The license plate number is not sufficient because the driver could be someone other than the owner of the car.
- » A report that is signed. If the report is from a citizen, another person must be able to verify the information.
- » A description of behaviors, observations or impairment related to driving.

DMV will not take action based only on a diagnosis or a person's advanced age.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN?

Depending on the nature of the driver's limitation and the contents of the Driver Condition or Behavior Report, DMV may require a:

1. Road test
2. Knowledge test
3. Medical report
4. Vision exam or screening
5. No further action
6. Cancellation of the license*
7. Any combination of 1–4

**Only a behavior report signed by a Doctor of Medicine (MD), Doctor of Osteopathy (DO), Physician Assistant (PA-C) or Advanced Practice Nurse Prescriber (APNP) can result in immediate cancellation of a license.*

