



# Brain Tumour Australia Information

## © FACT SHEET 50

### Driving & Brain Tumours

#### The Brain— Driving & Brain Tumours

***Driving against medical advice is a serious safety risk. If a person drives when classified by their treating doctor as medically unfit and has an accident there is a risk of prosecution and insurance companies are likely to cancel the policy or refuse to pay for any damage.***

Driving offers an important means of independence. However, after a diagnosis and, or treatment of a cerebral tumour (or metastases), are you aware that an individuals ability to continue driving a vehicle safely may be affected?

#### Difficulties may include

- Feeling less confident /over confident
- Concentration problems
- Inability to react as quickly as one did prior to current circumstances
- Tiring quickly
- Finding it difficult to manage busy/noisy traffic Situations
- Managing lights in traffic
- Experiencing problems positioning the vehicle correctly on the road
- Not seeing other vehicles or pedestrians
- Ability to turn the wheel with both hands
- Operating brakes, accelerator or gear shift
- Remembering road rules
- Vision problems

#### Guidelines

- It is necessary for an individual or support person to discuss with the doctor any limitations about ability to continue driving.
- It may be necessary to conduct an assessment to determine when the person can resume their driving activities.
- Medication, the period following surgery or various treatments may all change an individuals ability to drive a vehicle safely.
- Passengers who knowingly travel in a vehicle driven by an individual who has been told not to drive, may find they are not covered by insurance.

#### The Assessing Fitness To Drive (AFTD)

Are standards that outline the medical standards for private and commercial driver licensing throughout Australia.

A Fact Sheet entitled "Your questions answered is also available to answer some of the more common questions that you may have about medical fitness and driving.

These documents can be accessed from Austroads <http://www.austroads.com.au>

#### Check with your local licensing authority:

<b>New South Wales</b> <u>NSW Roads and Traffic Authority</u> <b>13 22 13</b>	<b>Queensland</b> <u>Queensland Transport</u> <b>13 23 80</b>
<b>Victoria</b> <u>VicRoads Information Service</u> <b>13 11 71</b>	<b>Tasmania</b> <u>Department of Transport Tasmania</u> <b>1300 135 513</b>
<b>Western Australia</b> <u>Licensing Services</u> <b>13 11 56</b>	<b>South Australia</b> <u>Transport South Australia</u> <b>13 10 84</b>
<b>Australian Capital Territory</b> <u>ACT Road Users Services</u> <b>(02) 6207 7000</b>	<b>Northern Territory</b> <u>Motor Vehicle Registry Customer Service Centre</u> <b>1300 654 628</b>

Also consult the Cancer Institute of NSW for an excellent resource on Driving & Cancer Council NSW

<http://www.cancerinstitute.org.au/>

<http://www.braincanceraction.com.au/>