

Driving and dizziness

This leaflet explains the rules about driving and dizziness, giddiness and vertigo. If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your medical team.

What are my responsibilities if I have dizziness and I have a driving licence?

The medical standards of fitness to drive are issued by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) in Swansea. 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. This includes attacks of dizziness or giddiness which are sudden and disabling.

Informing the DVLA is the responsibility of the driver. You can be fined up to £1,000 if you don't tell DVLA about a medical condition that affects your driving. If you are involved in an accident and it is found that your health condition was a contributing factor, your insurance may not be valid and you may be prosecuted.

What happens next?

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. If for medical reasons you are not fit to drive, the DVLA will withdraw your driving licence from you. They will issue you with a new one once you are declared fit to drive again. You do not have to re-take your driving test. In most cases of episodes of dizziness, a car licence can be reissued after three months without the attacks.

For further information contact the DVLA:

Post: Drivers Medical Enquiries, DVLA, Swansea SA99 1TU

Telephone: 0300 790 6806 (car or motorcycle), 0300 790 6807 (bus, coach or lorry)

Fax: 0845 850 0095

Email: via website

Internet: www.gov.uk/driving-medical-conditions

Useful sources of information

Pharmacy Medicines Helpline

If you have any questions or concerns about your medicines, please speak to the staff caring for you or call our helpline.

t: 020 7188 8748 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday

Your comments and concerns

For advice, support or to raise a concern, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS). To make a complaint, contact the complaints department.

t: 020 7188 8801 (PALS) **e:** pals@gstt.nhs.uk

t: 020 7188 3514 (complaints) **e:** complaints2@gstt.nhs.uk

Language Support Services

If you need an interpreter or information about your care in a different language or format, please get in touch:

t: 020 7188 8815 **e:** languagesupport@gstt.nhs.uk

NHS 111

Offers medical help and advice from fully trained advisers supported by experienced nurses and paramedics. Available over the phone 24 hours a day.

t: 111

NHS Choices

Provides online information and guidance on all aspects of health and healthcare, to help you make choices about your health.

w: www.nhs.uk

Get involved and have your say: become a member of the Trust

Members of Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust contribute to the organisation on a voluntary basis. We count on them for feedback, local knowledge and support. Membership is free and it is up to you how much you get involved. To find out more, and to become a member:

t: 0800 731 0319 **e:** members@gstt.nhs.uk **w:**

www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/membership

Leaflet number: 4280/VER1

Date published: August 2016

Review date: August 2019

© 2016 Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust