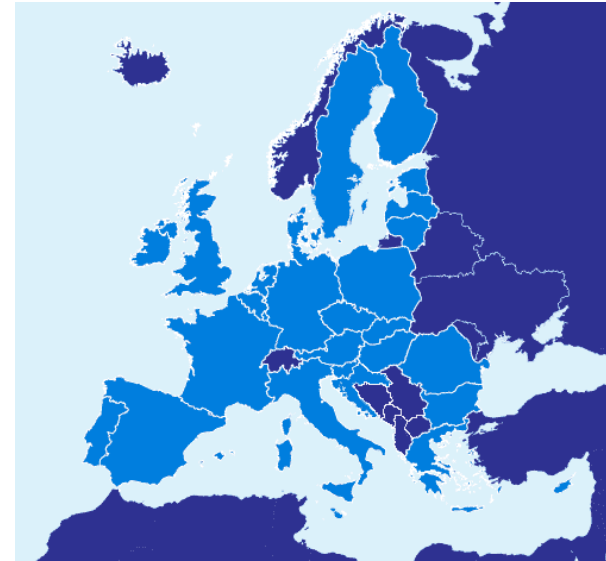




# The role of guidelines in medical fitness to drive (MFTD) assessments

Prof Desmond O'Neill

National Office for Traffic Medicine, RCPI/RSA



No apparent harmonization between  
50 states

(Lococo et al, 2017)

Progressive engagement with EU-wide MFTD

2006: General

2009: Diabetes, vision, epilepsy

2014: Obstructive sleep apnoea

2016: Cardiology

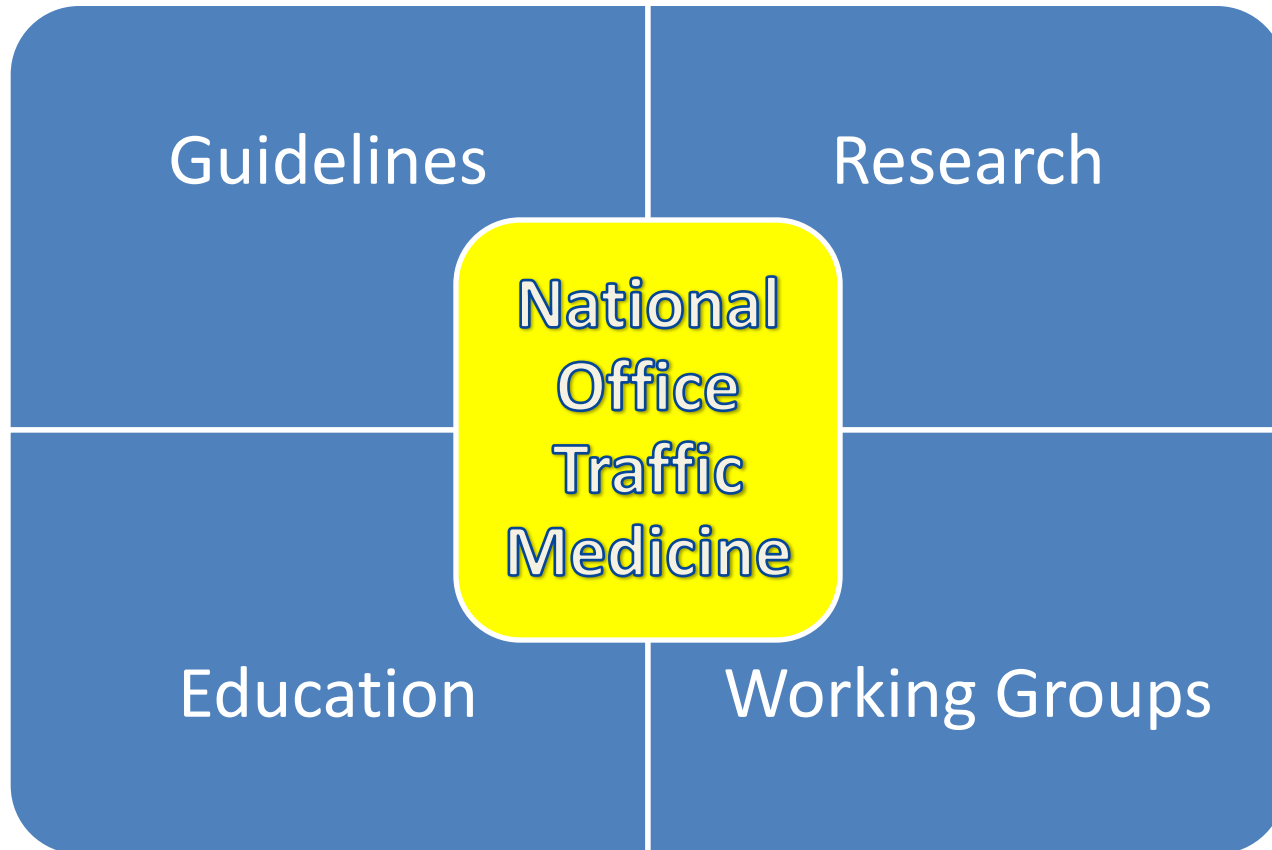


# Irish MFTD Timeline

- 2009 Directive the key catalyst – DM, vision, epilepsy
- 2013 National Office for Traffic Medicine
- Critical success factors:
  1. Enabling framework
  2. Inclusive – over 30 disciplines
  3. Shared responsibilities – driver, doctor, licensing
  4. Evidence based to greatest extent possible
  5. Strong educational emphasis



# National Office for Traffic Medicine





# 1. Enabling

- Supports mobility
- Reduces injury and death
  - Directly
    - Sleep Apnoea, ADHD, Dementia, Cataracts..
  - Indirectly
    - Driving cessation associated increased injury/death vulnerable road user



Traffic Injury Prevention, 9:367–378, 2008  
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ISSN: 1538-9588 print / 1538-957X online  
DOI: 10.1080/15389580801895285



# It Cannot Be All about Safety: The Benefits of Prolonged Mobility

**JENNIFER OXLEY and MICHELLE WHELAN**

Accident Research Centre, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia

GETTING AROUND WHEN YOU  
CANNOT DRIVE

Public Information



Read about options for getting around when you can no longer drive, including public transport and additional services supporting mobility in the community.

▶ FIND OUT MORE



## 2. Inclusive - Working Group

- Over 30 medical disciplines
- Nursing, occupational therapy, psychology, pharmacy, physiotherapy
- Patient advocacy
- Driver licensing, police, department of transport
- Director, Programme Manager, Programme Coordinator



## 3. Shared responsibilities





# Raising public awareness MFTD

- Alcohol
- Diabetes
- Cardiac Conditions
- Epilepsy
- Obstructive Sleep Apnoea
- Emergency Department
- Stroke
- ADHD
- ....



**NDLS**  
National Driver Licence Service  
An Seirbhís Ábairtair um Chosnóirí Tomair

### Alcohol and Driving

This is an overview of the driving risks for drivers who misuse alcohol and have alcohol-dependence issues. Full guidelines are published in *Sláinte agus Tomair: Medical Fitness to Drive* Guidelines.

*Alcohol and speed are two leading factors in fatal collisions. Alcohol was shown to be a factor in over 35% of fatal collisions in 2007 (Review of Pro-casual Behaviour in Fatal Road Collisions Report 2: Alcohol, RSA Research Department, 2011.)*

**NDLS**  
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An Seirbhís Ábairtair um Chosnóirí Tomair

### Diabetes and Driving

This is an overview of driving with diabetes. The complete standards are published in *Sláinte agus Tomair: Medical Fitness to Drive* (MFTD) Guidelines.

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### Cardiac Conditions and Driving

This is an overview of driving with cardiology (heart) conditions. The complete standards are published in *Sláinte agus Tomair: Medical Fitness to Drive* (MFTD) Guidelines available at [www.ndls.ie](http://www.ndls.ie)

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### Epilepsy, Seizures and Driving

This is an overview of driving with epilepsy. The complete standards are published in *Sláinte agus Tomair: Medical Fitness to Drive* (MFTD) Guidelines.

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### Emergency Department (ED): getting back to driving after injury

This is an overview of returning to driving after an injury. The complete standards are published in *Sláinte agus Tomair: Medical Fitness to Drive* (MFTD) Guidelines.

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### Obstructive Sleep Apnoea (OSAS) and Driving

This is an overview of the driving risks for drivers with Obstructive Sleep Apnoea Syndrome (OSAS). The complete standards are published in *Sláinte agus Tomair: Medical Fitness to Drive* (MFTD) Guidelines.



# 4. Evidence-based

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the RCPI Traffic Medicine website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://www.rcpi.ie/traffic-medicine/>. The website header includes the RCPI logo and navigation links: HOME, RCPIStore, FACULTIES, EXAMINATIONS, TRAINING, COURSES AND EVENTS, PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE, and MORE. A login form is visible with the text "Login to your RCPI Digital Hub" and fields for the username "desmondjonell" and a password. A "LOGIN" button is present. Below the navigation is a banner for "Traffic Medicine" featuring a photograph of a road. The main content area has a red background with the text "LOOKING FOR MEDICAL FITNESS TO DRIVE GUIDELINES?" and a sub-headline "Published in April 2017, this document is designed to help doctors and other healthcare professionals assess medical fitness to drive". A green button at the bottom of the banner says "DOWNLOAD SLÁINTE AGUS TIOMÁINT MEDICAL FITNESS TO DRIVE GUIDELINES".

Annual literature review  
Annual external overview



# Sources

- Evidence-based literature
  - Laberge-Nadeau, Trucks and Diabetes, Diabetes Care, 2000;23:612-7
- Existing guidelines
  - Austroads, CMA, DVLA, AMVA: FMCSA for Group 2
- Consensus statements
  - American Diabetic Association, 2013
- ‘Grey’ literature
  - TRB, AMA



Traffic Injury Prevention (2015) 0, 1-6  
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ISSN: 1538-9588 print / 1538-957X online  
DOI: 10.1080/15389588.2014.979408



European Geriatric Medicine 6 (2015) 541-544

# Impact of New C on Awareness of Practitioners in I



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AMILA KAHVEDŽIĆ<sup>1</sup>, REGINA

<sup>1</sup>N  
<sup>2</sup>Ir  
<sup>3</sup>D

Research paper

## Is driver licensing restriction for age-related medical conditions an effective mechanism to improve driver safety without unduly impairing mobility?



C. O'Byrne<sup>a</sup>, A. Naughton<sup>a</sup>, D. O'Neill<sup>a,b,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>School of Medicine, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland

<sup>b</sup>Trinity College Dublin, and National Programme Office for Traffic Medicine, Dublin, Ireland



ELSEVIER

Research paper

## The older motorcyclist

D. Fitzpatrick<sup>c</sup>, D. O'Neill<sup>a,b,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Centre for Ageing, Neuroscience and the Humanities, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland

<sup>b</sup>National Programme Office for Traffic Medicine, Royal College of Physicians, Dublin, Ireland

<sup>c</sup>Age-related health care, William Stokes unit, Tallaght hospital, D24 NR0A, Dublin, Ireland

## guidelines on driving with medical illness

M.J. RAPOPORT<sup>1,2</sup>, K. WEEGAR<sup>3</sup>, Y. KADULINA<sup>4</sup>, M. BÉDARD<sup>5,6</sup>, D. CARR<sup>7</sup>,  
J.L. CHARLTON<sup>8</sup>, J. DOW<sup>9</sup>, I.A. GILLESPIE<sup>10</sup>, C.A. HAWLEY<sup>11</sup>, S. KOPPEL<sup>8</sup>,  
S. MCCULLAGH<sup>12,13</sup>, F. MOLNAR<sup>3,4</sup>, M. MURIE-FERNÁNDEZ<sup>14</sup>, G. NAGLIE<sup>2,15</sup>,  
D. O'NEILL<sup>16</sup>, S. SHORTT<sup>17</sup>, C. SIMPSON<sup>18,19</sup>, H.A. TUOKKO<sup>20</sup>, B.H. VRKLJAN<sup>13</sup> and  
S. MARSHALL<sup>3,4</sup>



# National R&D

## TRAFFIC MEDICINE RESEARCH WEBINAR 2021

6 May 2021



A free open research forum for all those researching areas related to traffic medicine, mobility and road safety.

➤ [FIND OUT MORE](#)

## MARY WARD ESSAY PRIZE FOR TRAFFIC MEDICINE

A competition for medical and allied health students

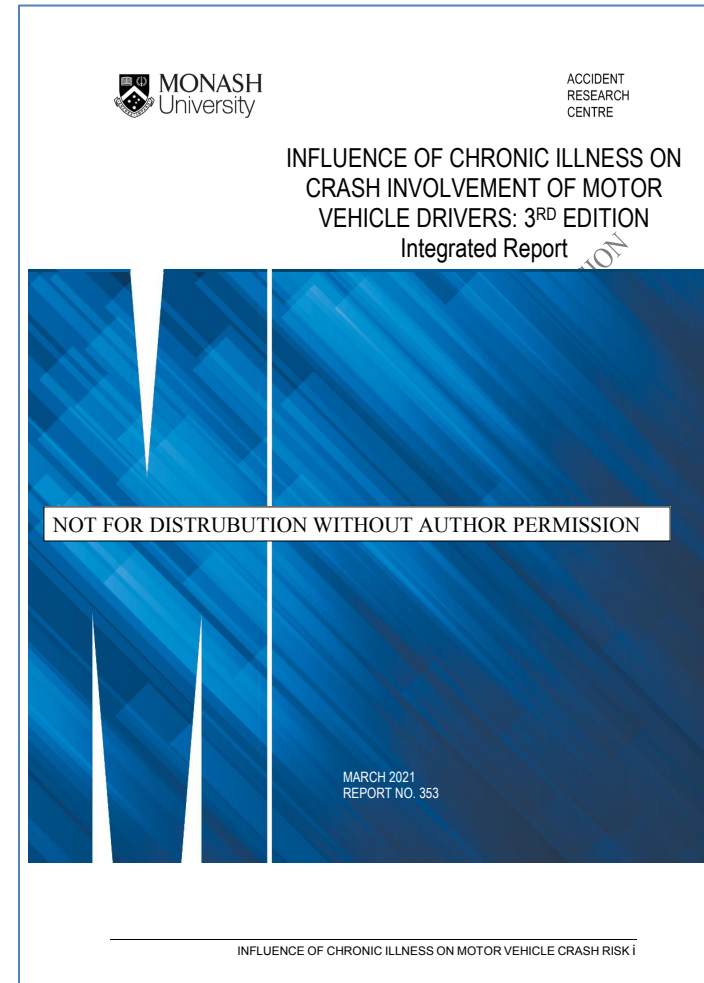


Our essay competition is open to all medical and allied health students in Ireland.

➤ [FIND OUT MORE](#)



# International R&D





# 5. Education

## CERTIFICATE IN TRAFFIC MEDICINE

Traffic Medicine courses



Suitable for all doctors and occupational health

## CERTIFICATE IN ROAD SAFETY, MOBILITY AND HEALTH

Traffic Medicine courses



Suitable for all those with an interest in road safety. Apply



# Clinical Update Traffic Medicine



# Outcome

- Context
  - Comprehensive high-quality guidelines, shared responsibility, driver itemized self-declaration, legal precedent, vibrant education programme
- Process
  - Driver's own doctor
  - Low threshold second opinion/other expertise
  - Evolving on-road driver assessment processes





*Traffic Injury Prevention* (2015) 0, 1–6  
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ISSN: 1538-9588 print / 1538-957X online  
DOI: 10.1080/15389588.2014.979408



# Impact of New Guidelines and Educational Program on Awareness of Medical Fitness to Drive Among General Practitioners in Ireland

AMILA KAHVEDŽIĆ<sup>1</sup>, REGINA MCFADDEN<sup>1</sup>, GERRY CUMMINS<sup>2</sup>, DAVID CARR<sup>3</sup>, and DESMOND O'NEILL<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*National Programme Office for Traffic Medicine, Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, Dublin, Ireland*

<sup>2</sup>*Irish College of General Practitioners, Dublin, Ireland*

<sup>3</sup>*Division of Geriatrics and Nutritional Science, Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri*



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# Traffic Medicine

## LOOKING FOR MEDICAL FITNESS TO DRIVE GUIDELINES?

Published in April 2017, this document is designed to help doctors and other healthcare professionals assess medical fitness to drive

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