



## Process

### Introduction

#### What is DriveABLE?

DriveABLE is the brand name of tests developed through scientific research to assess a person's cognitive functioning necessary for driving. The accuracy of this assessment process for identifying competent drivers and unsafe drivers has been validated through research.

It consists of the following separate procedures:

- DriveABLE Cognitive Assessment Tool (DCAT)
- DriveABLE On-Road Evaluation (DORE)

The DCAT is an in-office assessment which requires the driver to watch a computer screen and answer questions posed by an assessor by touching the screen or pushing a button. Their performance is age-normed. All drivers undergoing a DriveABLE assessment will complete the DCAT. The assessment takes approximately 60 minutes. **NOTE:** The patient does not need to have any computer skills.

The DORE is an on-road evaluation which consists of a standardized course developed through scientific research to reveal competence defining driving errors. Only driving errors shown by the research to be associated with competence declines are scored. Driving performance is normed against healthy competent drivers. Only those drivers who score in the 'inconclusive' range on the DCAT will undergo a DORE.

For more detail on the DriveABLE assessment go to [www.driveable.com](http://www.driveable.com).

#### Who undergoes a DriveABLE assessment?

A DriveABLE assessment is done when a health care professional, OSMV or a third party such as ICBC or WorksafeBC need to know a driver's functional ability related to driving. There are a variety of reasons, but underlying them all is an identified or suspected cognitive impairment. A common reason is to assist in the driving cessation process for a driver with a progressive dementia.

The driver is identified either through medical records, their driving record or a combination of both. OSMV is responsible to ensure all drivers on the road remain safe and therefore they are continually reviewing driver's files to identify those who may pose a risk on the road. DriveABLE results are one piece of evidence within a whole file of other information on which the OSMV make driving license decisions.

#### Who refers the patient to DriveABLE?

A patient (driver) is referred to DriveABLE through two channels:

- The OSMV
- A physician

## DriveABLE Process

As of December 1, 2010, when OSMV decides a driver needs a functional assessment, they will refer the driver directly to DriveABLE. The driver is sent a letter from OSMV directing them to call the DriveABLE Access Line to book their first appointment.

Although most drivers are referred by OSMV, a physician can refer a patient directly to DriveABLE. This is usually done to access an assessment faster than the four to six weeks it takes when the physician reports to OSMV. The physician can initiate the referral by calling the Access line or directing the patient to call. The Access line will send the physician a referral form. **NOTE:** When a patient is referred directly from a physician the patient is responsible for payment.

### Who pays for DriveABLE?

Responsibility for payment of the DriveABLE assessment fees is one of three options:

- Office of the Superintendent of Motor Vehicles (OSMV) pay
- Patient (driver being assessed) or private pay
- Sponsor pay, i.e. ICBC, WorksafeBC, etc.

For **OSMV pay** assessments the driver will have been sent a letter from OSMV stating they are to undergo a functional driving assessment within 30 days of the date of the letter. The letter instructs the driver to take the letter with them to the assessment. The letter is proof that OSMV is paying

**Sponsor pay** assessment fees are covered by a third party, i.e. ICBC, WorksafeBC, etc). The patient will have some type of documentation confirming a third party is funding the assessment.

For **Patient or Private pay** assessments there must be a referral from a physician. If there is no referral from a physician or other funding organization as stated above, then the assessment cannot be done.

### How are the assessments scored?

#### DCAT

The DCAT score ranges from 0 to 100% and represents the ability to predict the outcome of an on-road assessment:

0 - 29%	30% - 70%	71% - 100%
Normal range	Inconclusive	Impaired
<b>No Immediate Action Required</b>	<b>On-road evaluation required</b>	<b>Driving Cessation</b>

Scores in the 'normal range' are predictive of the patient passing the on-road evaluation. Patients with this score are considered 'fit to drive'. Scores in the 'impaired range' are predictive of the patient failing the on-road evaluation. Patients with this score are considered 'unfit to drive'. Patients with 'normal' or 'impaired' scores do not need to complete a DORE.

## DriveABLE Process

An 'inconclusive' score indicates that we are unable to predict their fitness to drive based on the DCAT assessment alone. Patients with this score must go on to complete a DORE if they want to maintain their driving status. If patients with an 'inconclusive' score choose not to complete a DORE, their licence will be revoked.

### DORE

The DORE scoring is based on the number of driving errors the patient makes:

Within normal range	Upper end of normal	Significant errors
Normal	Borderline normal	Impaired
<b>No Immediate Action Required</b>	<b>Re-assessment recommended</b>	<b>Driving Cessation</b>

Patients who score in the 'normal' range are considered 'fit to drive' and those who score in the 'impaired' range are considered 'unfit to drive'. Patients in the 'upper end of normal' are considered 'fit to drive' but should be monitored closely for any sign of decline. Screening within six months is recommended.

### Who gets the Results?

A final result is produced when a functional assessment is complete. An assessment is complete when:

- The patient's DCAT score is within the normal or impaired range, or
- The patient completes the DORE evaluation

All final results are faxed to the physician and OSMV as indicated on the consent form.

### What if a patient wants a second assessment?

Some patients request to have a second assessment when they are not satisfied with the results of the initial one. Generally the OSMV does not cover the cost of a second DriveABLE assessment within the first six months to one year. They may decide to waive the waiting period if they receive evidence of a change in medical status or driving performance that it is in the best interest of the driver and OSMV to reassess.

If a patient chooses to repeat an assessment within the OSMV waiting period, and OSMV does not require it, the patient is responsible for payment of the assessment.

### Will OSMV require other assessments?

Ensuring drivers remain safe on the road is complex and at times confusing process. Driving licensing decisions and recommendations are made based on all the information in a driver's file. These include confidential information such as medical records, driving records, and other assessment results.

## **DriveABLE Process**

Sometimes drivers who are found fit to drive are asked to undergo other assessments such as an ICBC on-road evaluation. It is important to understand that the DriveABLE and the ICBC on-road evaluations are not the same. The DORE is specially designed to test functional ability to drive and the ICBC on-road test a driver's ability to follow the rules of the road.

### **What if my patient has questions about the status of their driver's licence?**

If patients have concerns or questions related to the status of their driver's license direct them to call OSMV at 250-387-7747 (option 1, then 5). For questions related to the assessment results, direct patients to contact the physician who referred them for the assessment.

**DriveABLE Process**