

## What happens after the assessment?

After the assessment your results will be discussed with you, and we will provide a recommendation about your safety to drive. At this point we can also discuss arrangements for modifications, driving tuition, or alternative transportation options.

Reports will be sent to your GP and other appropriate parties e.g. ACC, NZ Transport Agency. You may wish to discuss the outcome with your usual medical practitioner.

## How to contact us

**Burwood Driving Assessment  
Service  
Burwood Hospital  
Occupational Therapy Department  
Private Bag 4708  
Mairehau Road  
CHRISTCHURCH 8140**

**Telephone: (03) 383 6845  
Fax: (03) 383 6825  
Email: [Occthy@cdhb.health.nz](mailto:Occthy@cdhb.health.nz)**

## Where to find us

The Burwood Driving Assessment Service is currently located at:

The Physical Medicine Building  
Burwood Hospital

### The entrance is:

- Gate Number 3 on Mairehau Road.
- Follow the road around to the right.
- Park outside the entrance to the Physical Medicine Building.

Please see enclosed map.

Authorised by: Clinical Manager, O.T. Department  
Revised 18/12/2019 Version No. 8  
Common/Therapy/O.T./Admin/Driving/Brochure

## BURWOOD DRIVING ASSESSMENT SERVICE



## Why am I being assessed?

The ability to drive safely can be reduced due to illness or injury at any stage throughout your life.

The Burwood Driving Assessment Service will provide an objective assessment of your driving capability when medical fitness to drive is in question.

Our purpose is to advise you about your driving and to make recommendations about a return to, or continuation of, driving. We can also advise of any modifications that may be needed.

The demands of driving a car today are greater than they have ever been. It is important that we are responsible for driving in a manner which ensures both our own safety and the safety of other road users.

We can advise people with disabilities how to drive safely with or without modifications.

Your doctor, or the person referring you, should have explained why they have referred you for a driving assessment.

*If you have any questions about this referral please feel free to talk to us.*

## Off Road Assessment

This assessment begins with an interview to discuss any issues you may be having with driving. We also collect some background information such as:

- The type of car you drive - i.e. manual or auto-matic.
- Where you normally drive.
- How often you drive.
- How you perceive your medical condition is affecting your driving now.
- Your licence details.
- How you would manage if it was no longer safe for you to drive.

Your vision will be checked, and a few simple tests will be completed to check your physical capabilities such as your movements, your strength, co-ordination and visual spatial skills.

You may be asked some questions in relation to road rules and potential hazards in order to assess problem solving and decision making.

You may be asked to carry out some computerised tests to look at reaction times, thinking speed and concentration.

The off-road assessment takes up to 1.5 hours and an appointment for an on-road assessment will be arranged if appropriate. This will usually be for the following week.

## On Road Assessment

This part of the assessment checks your ability to drive in real life situations. It may be possible for you to do the assessment in your own car or it may be necessary to use our dual control assessment vehicle.

You will be accompanied by the Occupational Therapist, and a certified Driving Instructor who will sit beside you and give you instructions about where to drive.

A typical assessment will involve driving in different traffic conditions and situations such as suburban roads, shopping areas, open roads and town centre areas.

The on-road assessment and feedback can take up to 1.5 hours.

