# When a discussion about driving becomes necessary:

#### **BE PREPARED**

- $\square$  Make a list of safety and medical concerns.
- ☐ Explore legal concerns and licensing requirements.
- ☐ Plan for future transportation needs.
- ☐ Plan early, especially if illness is progressive.

#### **BE STRATEGIC**

- ☐ Consider family dynamics; some family members may not acknowledge the problem.
- ☐ Decide who would be best to raise the topic.
- ☐ Be aware that the driver may lack insight about driving problems.
- ☐ Expect resistance. Find out what driving means to the person.
- ☐ Remain positive. Focus on what you can do.
- $\square$  Be sensitive but resolved.

#### **OPEN THE DISCUSSION**

- ☐ When appropriate, acknowledge the driver's past driving record.
- □ Note that things have changed.
- ☐ Blame the medical condition, not the person.
- ☐ Discuss the implications of having a crash.
- $\square$  Be responsive to their concerns.
- ☐ Focus on need for driving assessment.
- ☐ Address future transportation options.



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## What are the signs?

There are many warning signs to the driver or to a loved one that there may be a problem:

- · Unaware of driving errors
- Close calls
- Driving too slowly
- Unaware of other vehicles
- Missing traffic signs
- Getting lost or confused
- Confusing the brake and gas pedals
- Being honked at by other drivers

Other non-driving signs such as a decline in ability to do everyday tasks, memory loss, disorientation, loss of strength or balance may indicate an assessment is necessary.

### **Objective and Unbiased.**

The **DriveABLE Cognitive Assessment** was scientifically developed and validated through award-winning university research. Over 150,000 assessments have been performed in North America

Designed specifically for experienced drivers with medical conditions that affect mental abilities, it provides an unbiased and objective measure of how the skills required for safe driving may have been compromised as well as overall driver risk.

DriveABLE provides the answer for the sensitive and difficult driving issue facing drivers and their families when dealing with a brain injury, disease or debilitative medication use.

Talk to your loved one, family and physician if you have concerns and call our office to schedule an assessment. A physician's referral is not required.

- Medical conditions can affect people at any age, but they are more likely to occur as we age.
- Many medical conditions such as Alzheimer's, Heart Disease, and Diabetes can affect driving abilities.
- Medications can seriously impair the ability to drive.
- Even when no single condition is severe, several conditions can combine to make the person unsafe to drive.

## **DriveABLE Cognitive Assessment**

One of the most significant challenges facing families and physicians today is how to navigate the impact of a medical condition or medication use that may have affected the cognitive abilities needed to drive safely. Or perhaps you have noticed a decline in the abilities or health of your parent or spouse, and are not sure if they are in fact, still safe to drive.

When a person is unsafe to drive, that person must stop driving. The problem is in knowing when to stop.

The Driver Cognitive Assessment Center (DCAC) is licensed to provide the full protocol of DriveABLE assessment technology. A two part process, the DriveABLE Cognitive Assessment Tool (DCAT Mobile) an in-office tablet based cognitive assessment followed by the DriveABLE On-Road Evaluation (DORE), a specialized functional on-road evaluation, combined to provide fair and accurate information about driver risk.

Don't leave this important decision to chance. Schedule the assessment trusted by healthcare professionals to provide this crucial information!

