

Can I drive in my splint or brace?

Braces that limit the movement of your neck, wrist, knee or ankle can affect your ability to drive.

What you need to do

- If you are wearing a brace that limits your movement, check your insurance policy or contact your insurance provider before driving.
- Braces that do not restrain movement should be safe, but remember: 'it is the responsibility of the driver to ensure that he/she is in control of the vehicle at all times and be able to demonstrate that it is so, if stopped by the police' (DVLA, 2007).
- Check with your doctor whether it is medically safe to drive. For example, driving might delay healing or damage surgical repairs, bones or recovering tissue.
- It is your duty as the licence holder to notify the DVLA if a medical or surgical condition is likely to affect your driving for longer than three months.

Remember - the decision to drive in a splint or brace is your responsibility.

This information is based on 'At a glance guide to the current medical standards of Fitness to Drive' Drivers Medical Group, DVLA, Swansea. September 2007. It is given for advisory purposes only and does not represent a formal view from the Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust or represent any legal liability on behalf of the Trust.

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