

“At-Risk Drivers” Checklist

An at-risk driver is one who no longer has the ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. Age alone does not make an individual an at-risk driver. Some health problems that would affect driving ability are:

- Seizure or loss of consciousness
- Stroke/arthritis – inability to tightly grip a steering wheel, reduced physical strength, inability to easily move foot from gas to brake pedal, inability to look over shoulder
- Various forms of dementia – reduced ability to react quickly and decisively to traffic conditions and confusion
- Severe eye ailments – lessened ability to focus on object and shift focus quickly, lessened ability to focus on fine details, reduced peripheral vision, poor night vision, sensitivity to glare, weakened depth perception
- Medication side effects/ drug interaction (including over the counter) – drowsiness, blurred vision, dizziness, muscle relaxation
- Hearing loss – inability to hear high-pitched sounds, hearing loss that leads to inattentive driving, poorly maintained or incorrectly worn hearing aids

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(<http://www.dps.state.mn.us/dvs/AtRisk/At%20Risk%20Drivers.htm>)