

Older Driver Safety Evaluations

Hebrew SeniorLife

What is An Off-Road Clinical Driver Evaluation?

An Off-Road Clinical Driving Evaluation is completed by an Occupational Therapist that is trained to assess physical, visual, and mental abilities required for safe driving. Older persons who undergo a Driver Evaluation often have had a change in medical status, recent illness or changes in decision making abilities often related to dementia.

Our program is designed specifically to assess the driving needs of older adults based on current research, and recommendations from the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), The Physician's Guide to Assessing and Counseling Older Drivers, AAA, AARP and current state regulations. With a physician referral, the assessment and treatment is covered by most insurance providers.

The Off-Road Clinical Driver Evaluation typically includes the following:

- review of driving history, driving needs, and license status
- review of medical history and medications
- visual-perceptual and cognitive assessments
- assessment of sensory-motor abilities, which may include range of motion, strength, coordination, balance, sensation, or reaction time
- determine readiness for On-Road Driver Evaluation
- identify alternative means of transportation

What happens after your Driver Evaluation?

Based on your evaluation, the therapist can make recommendations about strategies, specialized equipment, and training to improve your driving safety and your overall health and well-being. At times, further health professional evaluations or a referral to an On-Road Driver Evaluation is recommended.

For more information about our Off-Road Clinical Driver Evaluation program, or to schedule an appointment call NewBridge on the Charles Outpatient Therapy at 781-234-9630.