

# Driving and Dementia- A quality improvement project

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***Dementia can potentially effect the ability to drive safely and accidents can occur.***

- Driving is not a simple task and involve thinking, hearing, vision and motor skills.
- The ability to drive can be effected by dementia.
- The diagnosis of dementia is not an absolute contraindication to driving but it needs to notify to driving and vehicle licencing authority (DVLA).
- It is the responsibility of the health professionals to discuss this with the patients so that they inform DVLA and safety measures in place.
- **Method:** Audit of Patients' letter with diagnosis of dementia in order to check whether advice was given about driving or not.

## • **Conclusion:**

- Dementia can potentially effect the ability to drive safely and accidents can occur. It should be a safe practice to advise all patients with diagnosis of dementia to notify to DVLA and this need to communicated verbally and in written to the patients and their families.

## • **References:**

- Practice parameter: risk of driving and Alzheimer's disease (an evidence-based review): report of the quality standards subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology. *Dubinsky RM, Stein AC, Lyons K Neurology. 2000 Jun 27; 54(12):2205-11.*
- Hamdy RC, Kinser A, Kendall-Wilson T, Depelteau A, Whalen K, Culp J. Driving and Patients With Dementia. *Gerontol Geriatr Med. 2018;4:2333721418777085. Published 2018 May 31. doi:10.1177/2333721418777085*

## • **Results:**

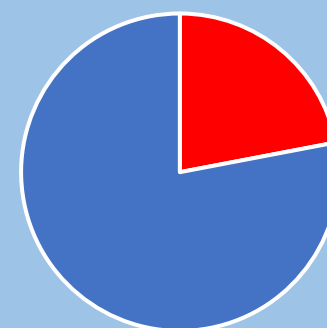
- Total patients taken 50.
- Patients who already gave up driving 39.
- Total who were driving 11
- Advise given and documented 9(82%)
- Not documentation found 2(18%)

comparison of advise given



■ Adise given ■ No advise

Comparison of driving vs not driving



■ Patients driving 11 ■ Patients who gave up driving