

Driving and Dementia



**Wednesday,
July 14, 2021**

Noon - 1:00 pm

***Virtual and Call-In
Option Available***

Registration Link: dhs.wi.gov/dcs-webinars

The privilege of having a valid driver's license is a symbol of independence, freedom, and competence. Some medical conditions (such as dementia) or medications (e.g., certain painkillers) can make a person unfit to drive. Unfortunately, people who have dementia eventually lose the ability to drive safely. There are changes in the brain that occur that affect reaction times, ability to problem-solve, and perception.

Doctors have the responsibility to alert the licensing authority when they determine someone is unfit to drive. Having this necessary and unpleasant conversation is often accompanied by intense feelings by the individual whose driving privilege is being taken away. A person with dementia may forget this directive and drive, anyway. When dementia is involved, enforcing the order can be a challenge. Family members are often tasked with this responsibility. Join us for this driving and dementia expert discussion to gain insight and strategies.

Presenters: Frankie Spencer, Medical Review and Fitness Team Lead with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Sarah Nelson OTR/L and Alyssa Tripi OTR/L with the Watertown Regional Medical Center: Rehabilitation & Sports Medicine Clinic

To submit a question for the DOT or a Dementia Care Specialist prior to the program or need call-in information, please e-mail HeatherJ@jeffersoncountywi.gov .

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