

Changes to standard for occupational therapists involved in driving assessments and vehicle modifications

Changes are from version 2, issued on 18 Feb 2021

Text	Amendment	Rationale
<p>Section 2 ... as an overarching guide for practice.</p>	<p><i>Addition</i> ... as an overarching guide for practice.</p> <p>It is anticipated that these standards will be reflected and supported by policies and procedures.</p>	<p>Clarification how the standard is to be used and applied.</p>
<p>Section 3 Privacy Act, 1993 Principle 11</p>	<p><i>Amendment</i> Privacy Act 2020</p>	<p>Update to refer to whole of current Privacy Act</p>
<p>Section 4.1 Information provided must state:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The purpose of assessment, the process, type and duration of assessments undertaken, and how the results will be communicated. This must include information about off and on road assessments. b. Practitioners must be clear about their role in respect to advice where clients are purchasing a vehicle from a third party. 	<p><i>Reordering and editing</i> Information provided must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. state the purpose of assessment, the process, type and duration of assessments undertaken, and how the results will be communicated. This must include information about off and on road assessments. b. provide client specific information regarding the service's assessment components and processes. c. provide information for clients to make them aware of their options for a second 	<p>Reordering and editing for clarity</p> <p>4.1c alter reference from 'brochures' to 'information'</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Client information brochures to provide specific information regarding the service’s assessment components and processes. d. Clients need to be made aware of their options for a second opinion, reassessment and complaint processes. e. Cost of assessment with responsibility for payment clearly explained. Provision of a written quote, cost invoice and receipt must be provided. Fees and fee structures must be responsive to clause 2.2 in the OTBNZ Code of Ethics. f. It is essential that practitioners maintain a contemporaneous record of the complete process and interactions with the client. 	<p>opinion, reassessment and complaint processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. provide information about the cost of the assessment with responsibility for payment clearly explained. Provision of a written quote, cost invoice and receipt must be provided. Fees and fee structures must be responsive to clause 2.2 in the OTBNZ Code of Ethics. e. It is essential that practitioners maintain a contemporaneous record of the complete process and interactions with the client. f. Practitioners must be clear about their role in respect to advice where clients are purchasing a vehicle from a third party. 	
<p>4.3 Informed consent in conjunction...</p>	<p><i>Insert footnote</i> Informed consent ¹ in conjunction...</p> <p>¹ Informed consent is defined in Right 7 of the <u>code of health and disability service user’s rights</u>: Right to make an informed choice and give informed consent.</p>	<p>Definition of informed consent is found in the code of health and disability service users rights.</p>
<p>4.3d ... reassessment of driving over a set period of time.</p>	<p><i>Insertion</i> ... reassessment of driving over a set period of time based on the clinical judgement of the assessor; and,</p>	<p>Informed consent relating to statutory requirements for diving assessors</p>

	e. Any statutory requirements to inform Waka Kotahi NZTA or other parties about the outcome of the assessment.	
5.2.1. A suitably qualified driving instructor is included in all on-road assessments... .. The occupational therapist is responsible to perform a risk assessment prior to an on-road assessment and provide the instructor with all relevant information. The driving instructor has responsibility to ensure the safety of all vehicle occupants and other road users. Both have responsibility to end the assessment where an immediate risk of harm to the occupants or public is identified.	<i>Alteration</i> 5.2.1. A suitably qualified driving instructor is included in on-road assessments when appropriate... .. The occupational therapist and the driving instructor share responsibility for safety during the assessment and should ensure that they have overlapping policies and procedures for managing any identified risk prior to the on-road assessment commencing. Both the driving instructor and the occupational therapist have responsibility to end the assessment where an immediate risk of harm to the occupants or public is identified.	Driving instructor is included <i>where appropriate</i> . Alteration to text to reflect the overlapping health and safety responsibilities for driving assessors and occupational therapists during an on road assessment.
5.2.2 ...The use of a dual control vehicle is recommended unless there are circumstances that warrant the use of the person's own vehicle...	<i>Alteration</i> ... A dual control vehicle should be used where indicated by the off road and risk assessment...	

Section 6 and 7 Discussion.

Stakeholders contributed to a discussion on the initial and ongoing training requirements of occupational therapist driving assessors. This information will be presented to the Board to consider the next steps. It will also be considered as part of the refresh of competencies, code of ethics and scope of practice. No changes were made to section 6 and 7 in the standard.

Initial training could include:

- A combination of supervised practice and theory, including mental health, complex driving skills and medical fitness training. Some of the theory may be delivered via online means.
- Assessors should hold a full class 1 driving licence for at least 2 years
- Training on legal and reporting requirements

- Training may need to be staged for differing levels of complexity (eg, vehicle modifications)
- Consideration as how the training leads to accreditation with other stakeholders

Continued professional development could include:

- Special interest groups
- Peer review of practice
- Regular hui/meetings
- Specific competencies for driving assessors included in the ePortfolio