

Stroke, Vision and Driving

(Large print version)

Contact us

Orthoptic department

(Insert hospital address)

Phone:

Email:

Web:



IN GENERAL

- No driving within 1 month of stroke onset
- No driving within 6 months if neurosurgery
- No driving if persistent functional impairment



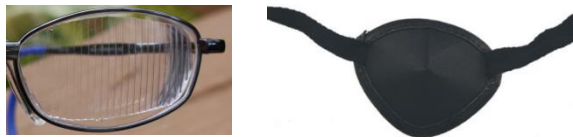
VISION

You should be able to read these letters when held 3 metres away from you.



DOUBLE VISION

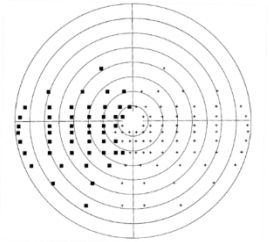
- You cannot drive with this.
- Double vision can be corrected by a prism or patch.



- If using a patch you must have adapted to being one eyed.
- Special cases - some people can drive with double vision if present for longer than 6 months and they have adapted to it.

VISUAL FIELD LOSS

- You cannot drive with significant visual field loss.
- Insurance becomes null and void.



DVLA requirements for visual field:

- 120 degrees wide with at least 50 degrees to each side
- 40 degrees high with clear 20 degrees above/below centre
- Special cases - some people can request a specialist driving test if they have non-progressive visual field loss, are at least one year post stroke and adapted to vision loss.

VISUAL PERCEPTION

If you struggle to recognise what you see (e.g. not recognising familiar objects/ surroundings), it is not safe to drive.

CAUTION

Loss of independence from loss of driving causes huge impact to individuals. BUT, not so huge as harm/death to others through continued, illegal driving.