

DVLA guidance at a glance

A Patient's Guide- Cardiology



Group 1- Car and Motorcycle

Angina **X**- Must not drive when symptoms occur: at rest, with emotion or at the wheel.

Driving may resume after satisfactory Symptom control.

Need not notify the DVLA.

Acute Coronary Syndrome (Type 1 and Type 2 Myocardial Infarction) **X**- Must not drive:

Resume after **1 week** if treated successfully with coronary angioplasty and no disqualifying condition.

Resume after **4 weeks** if successfully treated with coronary angioplasty, and no disqualifying condition but left heart failure (EF <40%)

Resume after **4 weeks** if not successfully treated with coronary angioplasty, and no disqualifying condition.

Need not notify the DVLA.

Arrhythmia (Sinoatrial Disease, Significant AV Conduction defect, AF or atrial flutter, narrow or broad complex tachycardia) **X**- Must not drive if arrhythmia has caused or is likely to cause incapacity.

Driving may resume only after:

- Underlying cause has been identified
- Arrhythmia is controlled for at least **4 weeks**

Need not notify the DVLA unless the above is not achieved and/or if there are distracting or disabling symptoms.

Heart Failure **!**- May drive and need not notify the DVLA, unless New York Heart Association stage IV whereby you must **not drive** and **must notify DVLA.**

Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD)

X- Must not drive for at least **6 months** from time of implantation or time of any shock.

Any resumption requires:

- Regular device interrogation
- No other disqualifying condition

Must notify the DVLA.

Pacemaker implant-including box change

X- Must not drive for at least **1 week.**

Must notify the DVLA.

Cardiac resynchronisation therapy (CRT)

X- Must not drive for at least **1 week.**

CRT-Pacemaker

Resume if:

- There are no symptoms likely to affect safe driving
- There is no other disqualifying condition

Must notify the DVLA.

CRT- Defibrillator

!- May drive subject to the following provisions:

- The requirements under ICD are met
- There is no other disqualifying Condition

Must notify the DVLA.

Group 2- Bus and Lorry

Angina **X**- Must not drive when symptoms occur. A licence will be refused or revoked if symptoms continue (treated/untreated).

Driving may resume if:

- No disqualifying condition
- No angina for 6 weeks
- Requirements for exercise or other functional tests are met.

Must notify the DVLA.

Acute Coronary Syndrome (Type 1 and Type 2 Myocardial Infarction)

X- Must not drive for all ACS:

Relicensed after **6 weeks** if treated

- LV ejection fraction is $\geq 40\%$
- Requirements for exercise or other functional tests are met
- No other disqualifying condition

Must notify the DVLA.

Arrhythmia (Sinoatrial Disease, Significant AV Conduction defect, AF or atrial flutter, narrow or broad complex tachycardia)

X- Must not drive if arrhythmia has Caused or is likely to cause incapacity.

Relicensed only after:

- Underlying cause has been identified
- Arrhythmia is controlled for at least **3 months**
- LV ejection fraction is $\geq 40\%$

Must notify the DVLA.

Heart Failure

!- May drive unless New York Heart Association (NYHA) stage III whereby you must **not drive** and your licence will be revoked.

Must notify the DVLA at all stages of NYHA.



Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD) X - Must not drive.
Licence will be refused or revoked permanently
Must notify the DVLA.

Pacemaker implant-including box change X - Must not drive for at least **6 weeks**
Must notify the DVLA.

Cardiac resynchronisation therapy (CRT)

CRT-Pacemaker X - Must not drive for at least **6weeks**
Resume if:
- LV ejection fraction is $\geq 40\%$
- The requirements for heart failure are met
- There is no other disqualifying condition

Must notify the DVLA.

CRT- Defibrillator X - Must not drive
Licence will be refused or revoked Permanently.
Must notify the DVLA.

It is your responsibility to inform the DVLA about a medical condition that could affect your driving.

“You can be fined up to £1000 if you do not tell the DVLA about a medical condition that affects your driving”

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Guidelines obtained from ‘GOV.UK website on Cardiovascular Disorders: fitness to drive’ March 2016

DVLA guidelines for cardiovascular diseases contents: [Assessing fitness to drive - GOV.UK](#)

1. [Angina](#)
2. [Acute coronary syndromes \(ACS\) \(to include type 1 and type 2 myocardial infarction\)](#)
3. [Elective percutaneous coronary intervention \(PCI\)](#)
4. [Coronary artery bypass graft \(CABG\)](#)
5. [Coronary artery disease](#)
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9. [Congenital complete heart block](#)
10. [Implantable cardioverter defibrillator \(ICD\)](#)
11. [Aortic aneurysm – ascending or descending thoracic and/or abdominal](#)
12. [Chronic aortic dissection](#)
13. [Marfan syndrome and other inherited aortopathies](#)
14. [Peripheral arterial disease](#)
15. [Hypertension](#)
16. [Cardiomyopathies](#)
17. [Heart failure](#)
18. [Cardiac resynchronisation therapy \(CRT\)](#)
19. [Heart transplant – including heart and lung transplant](#)
20. [Pulmonary hypertension – an established diagnosis \(under the care of a specialist centre\)](#)
21. [Heart valve disease](#)
22. [Aortic stenosis \(to include sub-aortic and supra-aortic stenosis\)](#)
23. [Heart valve surgery – including transcatheter aortic valve implantation and other cardiac or pulmonary percutaneous devices](#)
24. [Congenital heart disease \(CHD\)](#)
25. [ECG abnormality – suspected myocardial infarction](#)
26. [Left bundle branch block](#)
27. [Pre-excitation](#)
28. [Long QT syndrome - all cases of Long QT syndrome must notify the DVLA](#)
29. [Brugada syndrome - all cases of Brugada syndrome must notify the DVLA](#)