

Driving and Alzheimer's/Dementia

How can Alzheimer's/Dementia affect my driving abilities?

- Decreased visual memory
- Slowed information processing
- Decreased short-term memory
- Slowed reaction time
- Decreased attention and multitasking
- Decreased visual perceptual skills
- Poor executive functions such as planning, problem solving, and reasoning

Warning signs to look for:

- Unable to route plan or drive in unfamiliar areas
- Getting lost or confused
- Forgetting where the car is parked
- Difficulty judging traffic
- o Difficulty making decisions quickly and safely
- Other drivers honking at you
- Stopping at a green light or at intersections without stop signs
- Fender benders, accidents, near misses

If you, or those who drive with you, notice any of the above warning signs, you may need a driving evaluation. A Certified Driving Rehabilitation Specialist can provide a comprehensive driving evaluation to determine potential safety issues.

Resources: Transportation Solutions: 814-833-2301 www.drivingneeds.com
National Highway Safety Administration: www.NHTSA.gov
Alzheimer's Association (Erie): 1-800-272-3900 www.alz.org