

## Who would benefit from a referral to the Driving Assessment & Rehabilitation Service?

Many clients benefit from a referral to the Driving Assessment & Rehabilitation Service, including those who have, or suffer from:-

- Back, neck, upper or lower limb injuries
- Upper or lower limb amputees
- Short/tall stature
- Arthritic conditions
- Neurological conditions (including strokes and brain injury)
- Dementia or cognitive decline
- Mental Health disorders

Driving Assessment & Rehabilitation Service can also provide support and information to people when they discontinue driving. Families can be involved in counselling and alternative transport options and coping strategies can be discussed.

## How to Refer?

Clients can refer themselves to the Driving Assessment & Rehabilitation Service or they can be referred by their treating doctor. In most cases the treating doctor will be contacted to discuss the client's needs, medical history and to complete the documentation required to conduct a full driving assessment. Referrals can be made by phone, fax, email or via website.

## Fees

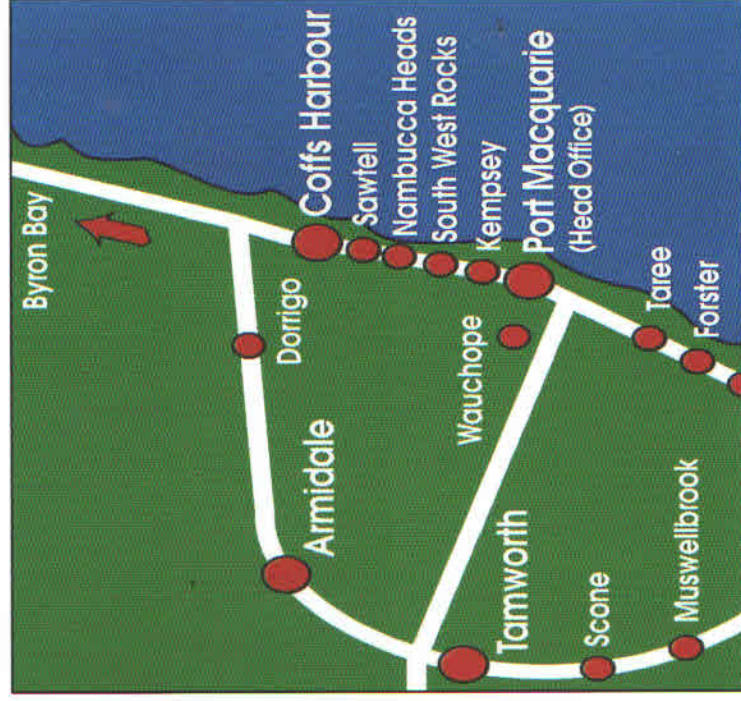
Medicare rebates may be available to clients as part of the Enhanced Primary Care Program (MBS Item Number 10958 - Occupational Therapist). Please contact us for an up to date fee schedule.

## Centre Location

In Port Macquarie we are located at the Work Life Centre on the corner of Hill & Granite Streets.



The service covers the Mid North Coast Regional areas of NSW.



# Driving Assessment & Rehabilitation Service

*"Promoting road safety & maintaining independence"*



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## Aims

The Driving Assessment & Rehabilitation Service has been established to provide support to clients who may be experiencing difficulties in relation to driving. The service also provides support to clients who are planning to stop driving.

## Staffing

The Driving Assessment & Rehabilitation Service is staffed by:

- Registered Occupational Therapists (Post Graduate Driver Trained & RMS Registered)
- Consultant Driving Instructors

## How Can We Help?

We offer a range of services that help promote road safety and help clients maintain their independence.

- Occupational Therapy Driving Assessment for private and commercial vehicle drivers.
- Rehabilitation advice for clients returning to driving following an injury or illness.
- Advice on vehicle modification.
- Counselling for clients who are planning to stop driving.
- Advice on Safe Driving Techniques.

## What is an Occupational Therapy Driving Assessment?

The assessment involves an off-road assessment in our clinic and a practical on-road assessment.

### Off-Road Assessment

The off-road assessment is conducted by a driver trained Occupational Therapist. It involves the following:-

- **Initial Interview** - Information regarding medical and driving history.
- **Physical Screen** - Range of motion, strength, tone, sensation, coordination and pain levels.
- **Vision Screen** - Visual acuity, peripheral vision and eye movements.
- **Cognitive Screen** - Concentration, attention, memory, problem solving and planning skills.

### On-Road Assessment

The on-road assessment is conducted in a driving instructor's vehicle with dual brake controls either with manual or automatic transmission. If it is safe, the assessment can be conducted in the client's own vehicle. The client's vehicle must be roadworthy, registered and insured.

## Outcomes of Assessment

When the assessment has been completed, the results will be discussed with the client. A range of outcomes are possible including:-

- The drivers licence is not altered in any way and the client can drive without restrictions.
- A conditional licence is recommended either temporarily or permanently.
- The drivers licence is cancelled or suspended temporarily or permanently.
- The driver is required to undertake a program of driving lessons prior to returning to driving.
- The driver is provided with rehabilitation advice and is reassessed at a later date.
- The driver is required to sit and pass an RMS test prior to resuming driving.

## Equipment and Resources

Driving Assessment & Rehabilitation Service have access to Suppliers who stock a range of equipment for purchase including

- Back Supports and Seating Cushions
- Panoramic Mirrors
- Steering Wheel - spinners

We can arrange access to a modified vehicle, with modifications such as

- Electronic Hand Controls
- Left Foot Accelerator

