

# Guidance for Driving and Transport

## Am I fit to drive?

You should speak to your doctor if you have been diagnosed with a brain tumour and they will assess your fitness to drive. The length of time that you will be unable to drive will depend on the type, grade and location of your tumour, as well as the treatment and side effects you have.

For **low grade tumours**, you can generally drive when you have recovered from treatment.

However, for some **high grade tumours**, you won't be able to drive for at least two years. If you've had a craniotomy, you won't be able to drive for six months.

**Seizures** can affect around 60% of people living with a brain tumour. If you have had a seizure, you generally won't be able to drive for at least one year. However, this can vary depending on the grade of your tumour. If you are suffering with repeated seizures, you may not be allowed legally to drive again.

If you are struggling with **sight problems** due to your tumour, whether this be hallucinations, double vision, sensitivity to light or reduced field of vision, you may not be able to drive again, as this could put you and others at serious risk.

In all cases, you should speak to your doctor to assess your ability to drive.



### Useful Links:

Find out more information about assessing fitness to drive at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/assessing-fitness-to-drive-a-guide-for-medical-professionals>

Please note - this is a guide designed for medical professionals, but can give some information on the period of time you may be without your license

## Informing the DVLA

You must tell the DVLA if you have been diagnosed with a brain tumour. This is because a brain tumour can affect your ability to drive safely.

You should also inform the DVLA if your condition worsens or if you begin taking any medication or treatments that affect your ability to drive.

To report your medical condition, please follow these links:

### Useful Links:

Car / motorcycle licence: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/b1-online-confidential-medical-information>

Bus / coach / lorry licence: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/b1v-online-confidential-medical-information>

It is important that you inform the DVLA, as if not you can be fined up to £1,000. You may also be prosecuted if you are involved in an accident as a result of your tumour or your treatment affecting your ability to drive.

If your doctor believes you are unfit to drive, you must surrender your license. If you do not do this, your license will be revoked. Getting your license back after it being surrendered is easier than getting it back after it has been revoked.

You can apply for a regular licence if you had a brain tumour as a child and you have not had a recurrence and there is no sign of your brain tumour coming back. However, you must tell the DVLA that you had a brain tumour as a child.



## Getting your license back

Always make sure that your doctor deems you fit to drive before getting your licence back. The DVLA will send you a letter when your licence is surrendered or revoked. This letter will state the amount of time you have to wait before getting your licence.

If you have voluntarily surrendered your licence and have applied for a new one, you may still be able to drive until your application is processed, under [Section 88 of the Road Traffic Act 1988](#)

## Coping without your license

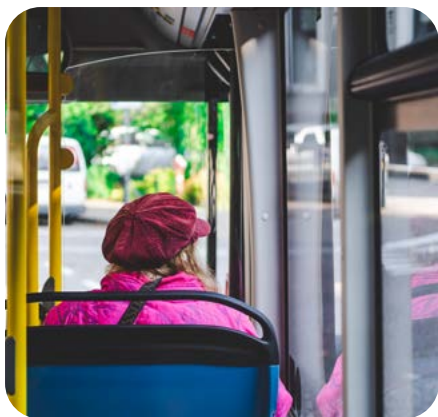
You may understandably feel very upset after finding out you are unable to drive. You may wonder how you are going to complete your everyday journeys such as getting to work or travelling to hospital appointments. You might need to take some time to adjust to this and look at different ways of getting to these places.

[www.yorksbtcc.org.uk](http://www.yorksbtcc.org.uk) | Tel: 0113 340 0111 | [info@yorksbtcc.org.uk](mailto:info@yorksbtcc.org.uk)

YBTC, 31 Otley Road, Headingley, Leeds, LS6 3AA

Registered Charity No: 1095931

**yorkshire's**  
**brain tumour**  
**charity!**



Asking your friends and family to take you to appointments may be useful, or you can check your local transport system. Many areas have community transport services for people who have difficulty using public transport. These include door-to-door transport and trips to shopping centres.

If you have seizures and are taking medication to control them, you are eligible for a free bus pass. You will need to apply for this via your local council.

After having had a brain tumour, you may be eligible to apply for a disabled person's bus pass.

#### Useful Links:

To find out more about applying for a disabled person's buss pass, go to <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-disabled-bus-pass>

You can find out about community transport services and Shopmobility at <https://www.gov.uk/community-transport-services-shopmobility>