

# Driving Safety for Elders: Helpful Links and Resources

## The Emotional and Physical Costs of Giving Up Driving

### Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

#### **DriveWise**

330 Brookline Ave., Boston, MA 02116

Phone: 617-667-4074

[Drive Wise program](#) provides comprehensive evaluation of the driving performance of individuals who may have compromised driving skills, due to impairment in motor, cognitive, perceptual and/or sensory abilities. The team include clinicians from behavioral neurology, clinical social work and occupational therapy. An on-the-road driving assessment is included with a patient and family feedback meeting.

### Braintree Rehab

#### **Driving Evaluation**

250 Pond Street, Braintree, MA 02184

Phone: 781-348-2500

Braintree Rehabilitation Hospital's Driving Evaluation Program has been developed to provide assessment of individuals with a variety of disabilities in order to facilitate independent mobility within the community. The Driving Evaluation Program includes many components to assess the patient's driving skills and works in conjunction with the treating physician.

### MIT AgeLab

#### **Talk with Older Drivers: The Hartford**

One Amherst Avenue, Room E40-279, Muckley Building, Cambridge, MA 02139

Phone: 617 253-0753

The AgeLab in collaboration with The Hartford help produced a resource with tips on how to have effective conversations with your older family members about your concerns with their driving. This is a free publication. Safe Driving for a Lifetime-questions families need to ask about older drivers. To read the full story click here <http://www.thehartford.com/talkwitholderdrivers/>. More than 4 million people in the United States are afflicted with dementia, with Alzheimer's disease being the most common form. Learn more with The Hartford's Alzheimer's & Driving. Click here to read further.<http://www.thehartford.com/alzheimers/>

### Newton Wellesley Hospital

#### **Drive Safe**

2014 Washington Street, Newton, MA 02462

Phone: 617-243-6172

The Drive Safe program within the Rehabilitation Service Department is designed for adults who are experiencing functional change due to medical conditions, trauma, surgery, neurological incidents, or aging. The Evaluation includes a comprehensive assessment of the visual, perceptual, cognitive and physical skills necessary for driving as well as knowledge of the rules of the road and driving safety. If the patient demonstrates the prerequisites skills for driving, the occupational therapist will coordinate a behind the wheel assessment that is conducted by a licensed driving instructor.

### Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital Network

#### **Driving Evaluation Program**

300 Granite Street, Braintree, MA 02184

Phone: 781-843-1145, Fax: 617 573-2610

An evaluation is conducted by an occupational therapist at one of the four centers by using a simulated system with steering wheels, accelerator and break pedals for reaction time testing. An evaluation will test vision, depth perception, motor planning and problem solving skills.

### Whittier Rehab

#### **Driving Evaluation**

150 Flanders Road, P.O. Box 1250, Westborough MA 01581

Phone: (508) 871-2077