# Back on the road... Driver Rehabilitation

Lisa Kristalovich, OT GF Strong November 10, 2015



#### **Objectives**

Learn GF Strong admission criteria

Learn the roles of the driver rehabilitation team

Understand the driver rehabilitation process





#### GF Strong Driver Rehabilitation Admission Criteria

- 16+
- Valid driver's license
- Physical, visual or cognitive impairments
- Referral from registered healthcare professional



### When to consider driver rehab

- Transfers are stable
  - Independent
  - Wheelchair driver
- Recovery has stabilized
  - Best chance at doing well
  - Too soon and...
    - Rehab or equipment that may not needed later



### **Driver Rehabilitation Team**

- RoadSafetyBC
  - Licensing decisions
  - Monitors chronic medical conditions

#### • Physician

- Identifies at-risk drivers
- Notifies RoadSafetyBC
- Refers to driver rehab
- Occupational therapy (OT)
  - Assessment of fitness-to-drive
  - Completes or supervises rehabilitation program
  - Prescribes adaptive equipment
  - Assessment of vehicle accessibility





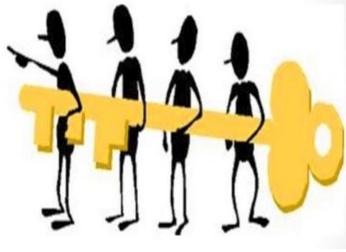
### **Driver Rehabilitation Team**

#### • Driver instructor

- Completes on-road rehabilitation under supervision of OT
- Expertise is in driving instruction

#### Equipment vendor

- Installs & maintains equipment
- Assists with vehicle accessibility assessment
- Expertise is in vehicle equipment



- YOU!
  - Participate in rehabilitation to improve your skills
  - Drive to the best of your ability

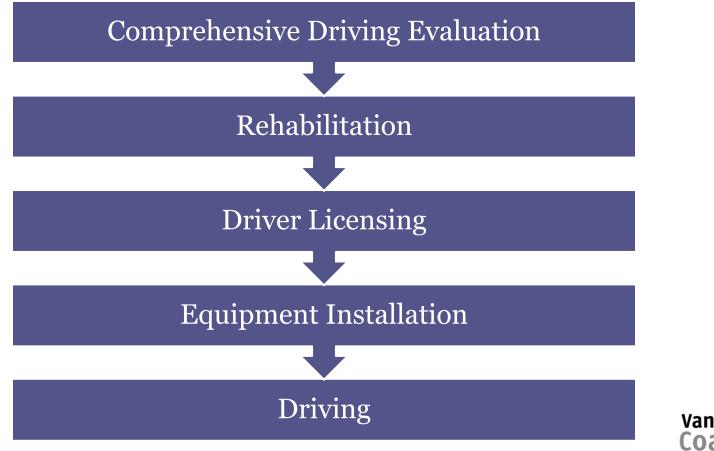


#### RoadSafetyBC - Driver Fitness Program

- Determines if an individual is medically fit to drive
- Decision made based on:
  - Medical information, assessments, driving record
  - Medically fit, no further action needed
  - Medically not fit to drive, license is cancelled
  - Further information needed
    - More medical information
    - Assessments
      - If RoadSafetyBC requires an assessment, they will reimburse the cost
      - ICBC road test
      - Comprehensive Driving Evaluation
      - DriveAble
- Does not automatically cancel license



#### **Driver Rehabilitation Process**





# **Comprehensive Driving Evaluation**

#### • Part 1 – Clinic Evaluation

- Interview
  - medical history
  - driving history
  - driver rehab goals
- Assessment
  - Physical
  - Vision
  - Cognition





# **Comprehensive Driving Evaluation**

- Part 2 On-Road Evaluation
  - OT & driver instructor
    OT writes the final report
  - Driver rehab centre supplies the vehicle



 Graduates from quiet areas to busy areas – residential, main roads, highways, parking



# **Comprehensive Driving Evaluation**

- Part 2 On-Road Evaluation Special Cases
  - Vehicle modifications
  - New drivers
- Goals:
  - Potential to drive
    - Improvement during the evaluation







## Clinic or Home Rehabilitation

- Completed with OT
- Example goals:
  - Improve visual scanning
  - Improve visual or cognitive processing speed
  - Improve divided attention
- Visual or cognitive rehab
- Active passenger driving



## **On-Road Rehabilitation**

- Driving lessons completed with driver instructor
   Supervised by OT
- Example goals
  - Become proficient with adaptive equipment
  - Remain centered in lane 100%
  - Make accurate and timely decisions at intersections and lane changes
- Re-evaluation with OT
- at end of rehabilitation





## Licensing

- OT writes report
- RoadSafetyBC reviews, makes licensing decision, sends letter to the driver
  - Common restrictions
    - 25 prosthesis is authorized
    - 26 adaptive equipment is authorized
    - 28 automatic transmission only
- Driver picks up new license



# Equipment

#### NMEDA vendors

- Mechanics are certified as meeting Transport Canada standards
- Metro Vancouver
  - Advanced Mobility
  - Shoppers HomeHealthCare
  - Sidewinder
- Non-NMEDA vendors
  - Metro Vancouver
    - Motion Specialties
    - Wolfe Mobility





#### Finances

- Not covered by MSP
- Assessment \$600

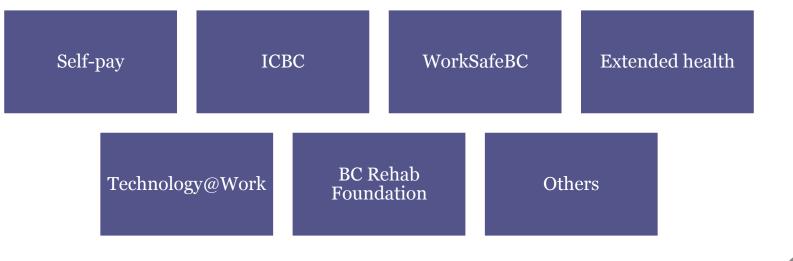


- On-road rehabilitation \$175/90 minute session
- Equipment varies, quote available from vendor



#### **Funding Sources**

- Responsibility of the driver to arrange
- Must be in place before beginning driver rehab





#### Do I have to do driver rehab?

- Discuss with your healthcare team
- Personal responsibility
   Self-declaration of medical changes
- Insurance implications





## Questions?

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