

# questions to ask

## To Assess the Orientation and Memory

1. Ask, "Where are you going and where are you coming from?" *Record response as given.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Ask to state/spell full name, address, and home phone number.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Ask today's date and day of the week, using prompts if necessary.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Ask correct time of day without looking at watch  
*(more than 1 hour off is abnormal).*

Stated: \_\_\_\_\_

Actual: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Ask to recite months in reverse order.

Number of errors: \_\_\_\_\_ *(two or more is abnormal)*

6. Ask what city or town you are in now:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Ask what is make/model/year of car.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Point at each item listed below and ask the individual to name it. *Record responses as given.*

**\*If contact is not a result of a traffic stop, choose nearby common items and ask the individual to name them.**

*(record items asked and responses, below).*

Steering Wheel: \_\_\_\_\_ Windshield: \_\_\_\_\_

Glove Compartment/Box: \_\_\_\_\_ Radio/Stereo: \_\_\_\_\_

Rear-view Mirror: \_\_\_\_\_ Gear Shift: \_\_\_\_\_

### QUESTIONS 1 THROUGH 8:

# Correct Responses \_\_\_\_\_ # Incorrect Responses \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Recommendations: *circle*

Too Impaired for Driving Skills Test | Too Unsafe/No Further Testing

Vision Testing Recommended | Report to DMV/Unsafe on Road

Locate Family/Neighbor and Secure at Home

File Report/Warning or Citation Issue | Transport to Hospital

Request Further Action

Adapted from State of Missouri State Highway Patrol – Used with permission.

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# IACP's Alzheimer's INITIATIVES

*SAFEGUARDING THE MATURING POPULATION*

## Identifying & Evaluating the At-Risk Older Adult

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

OFFICER \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF PERSON \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_



**BJA**  
Bureau of Justice Assistance  
U.S. Department of Justice

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE  
515 North Washington Street Alexandria, VA 22314  
(800) THE-IACP alzheimers@theiacp.org  
[www.theiacp.org/alzheimers](http://www.theiacp.org/alzheimers)

# check

## The Responses

Use this checklist when interacting with a person or driver you suspect is lost, confused, or otherwise appears at risk. Record your observations and professional judgments below. Check items that apply.

### INTERPERSONAL

- Appears confused/disoriented
- Seems disoriented to location/landmark
- Unaware of purpose of your interaction
- Forgetful in conversation
- Slow to respond to questions
- Speech is difficult to understand
- Inattentive/easily distracted
- Possible hearing loss suggested
- Poor comprehension of instructions
- Needs prompting/cues to stay on task
- Hostile/angry comments to officer
- Denies making errors while driving
- Unwilling to accept/discuss feedback
- Repeats statements/questions
- Inappropriate attire for the location, season, or time of day

### VISION

- Driver wearing glasses
- Vision appears generally impaired
- Unable to read text on forms
- Has difficulty judging distances
- Has difficulty identifying road signs
- Unable to read road signs
- Glasses appear broken
- Driver reports needing new glasses
- Difficulty with peripheral vision
- Looks straight ahead (Tunnel Vision)
- Fails to check blind spot

### MOTOR FUNCTION—PHYSICAL

- Unsteady when walking
- Slow, shuffling gait
- Balance problem in standing/walking
- Requires assistance to keep from falling
- Uses a cane or walker
- Limited head/neck range of motion
- Slow motor skills
- Hands/arms shake (tremor)
- Head shakes
- Poor endurance/tires easily
- Difficulty lifting legs
- Limited arm range of motion
- Appears generally frail and weak

### MOTOR FUNCTION—VEHICLE

- Slow foot movement from gas to brake
- Has difficulty reaching the pedals
- Has difficulty starting vehicle
- Has difficulty moving gear shift
- Difficulty locating ignition and inserting key
- Has difficulty grasping the wheel
- Applies gas and brake simultaneously
- Confuses gas and brake pedals
- Difficulty locating and putting on seat belt
- Foot appears to slip off pedal
- Entering/exiting vehicle is awkward/unsteady
- Has difficulty unlocking vehicle

### OPERATION OF VEHICLE

- Parking—Unable to parallel park
- Signs—Unaware of signs
- Signs—Failed to stop for red traffic signal
- Signs—Failed to appropriately react to stop or yield signs
- Signs—Inconsistent in responding to other directional signs
- Control—Nearly struck pedestrian
- Control—Follows too close to others
- Control—Hits/runs over curbs
- Control—Stops in traffic for no reason
- Control—"Near-miss" collisions observed
- Control—General poor control
- Speed—Consistently too fast
- Speed—Consistently too slow—Impeding traffic
- Speed—Variable and uncontrolled
- Lane—Drives on/over center line
- Lane—Operating in wrong direction on one-way street
- Lane—Operating in wrong direction on divided roadway
- Lane—Consistently too close to curb
- Lane—Difficulty when changing lanes
- Lane—Incorrect use during left or right turns
- Lane—Incorrect use at intersections
- Lane—Weaves/drifts over lines to divide lanes
- Backing—Fails to look where going
- Backing—Weaves when backing up

### OTHER OBSERVATIONS

- Consistent failure to check conditions
- Delayed response to road conditions
- Appears confused at intersections
- Failed to brake when driving past a pedestrian or cyclist
- Has difficulty merging into traffic
- Appears to be unable to anticipate potential dangers
- Does not improve with feedback

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

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