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| **Tennessee: Policies and Practices to Improve State Driver Medical Review Systems**  KOAAA.gif | | | |  |
|  | **POLICY APPROACH** | **MEETS AAA RECOMMENDATIONS?** | | |
| **Identification of At-Risk Drivers** | **In-person license renewal for older drivers:**  *Allows for a range of opportunities for DMV staff to identify and refer potential at-risk drivers* | **No** | * Tennessee requires all drivers to renew their licenses every 5 years, in-person every other renewal   **AAA recommends that in-person renewal be required at least every 5 years for all drivers starting no later than age 75** | |
| **Vision testing at license renewal:**  *Declining sharpness of sight may be a sign glasses or contacts are required, or it may mean that an eye condition needs further evaluation by a health care provider* | **No** | * Tennessee does not require vision testing at license renewal   **AAA recommends requiring visual acuity testing for all drivers at every in-person renewal** | |
| **Form for easy physician referral:**  *Having a readily available form makes it easier for healthcare providers to refer a potential at-risk driver* | **Yes** | * Tennessee makes available online an official referral form that healthcare providers can use to refer a potential medically at-risk driver | |
| **Form for easy law enforcement referral:**  *Having a readily available form makes it easier for police to refer a potential at-risk driver* | **Yes** | * Tennessee makes available online an official referral form that law enforcement can use to refer a potential medically at-risk driver | |
| **Healthcare provider immunity for referral in good faith:**  *Healthcare providers may be discouraged from referring a patient if they can be sued for breach of confidentiality and violation of patient-doctor privilege* | **No** | * Tennessee does not offer immunity for healthcare providers who refer potential medically at-risk drivers   **AAA recommends that healthcare providers be immune from civil and/or criminal liability for good faith referring a potential at-risk driver** | |
| **DMV staff observational training:**  *DMV licensing examiners can objectively observe motorists for potential impairments important to safe driving* | **No** | Tennessee does not provide local examiners with observational training or guidelines on observing for potential medical impairments that can affect driving ability  **AAA recommends that training and/or guidelines be provided to local examiners on observing for potential medical impairments that can affect driving ability** | |
| **Assessment**  **of At-Risk Drivers** | **DMV access to medical expertise:**  *Most states have established Medical Advisory Boards to advise on medical policy and assist with individual case reviews. However, a few states have adopted other models for obtaining needed medical expertise* | **No** | * Tennessee has a Medical Advisory Board that advises on individual cases regarding medically at-risk drivers but does not advise on general policy   **AAA recommends that DMVs have access to objective medical expertise to both advise on state medical policy and to review individual cases, either via a Medical Advisory Board, DMV staff physicians, outside medical groups, or other means** | |
| **Adjudication of**  **At-Risk Drivers** | **Restricted licensing:**  *By restricting driving to lower risk situations (e.g., during daytime only, on lower speed roads, close to home), medically at-risk drivers can lower their crash risk while prolonging mobility* | **No** | * Tennessee may issue conditional licenses that may include restrictions such as daylight driving only, speed and/or road type, or requiring special vehicle equipment   **AAA recommends that states make available restricted or conditional licenses for medically-at-risk drivers with all three of the following groups of conditions: geographic, operational, and vehicle** | |
| **Driver rehabilitation or remediation:**  *Some drivers may be able to compensate for risky medical conditions and functional impairments by making modifications to their vehicle and/or learning new driving strategies to lower crash risk* | **No** | * Tennessee may refer at-risk drivers to their own physician or vision specialist, but not occupational therapists or driving rehabilitation specialists   **AAA recommends that states have the option to refer drivers in need of more comprehensive assessment and/or remediation to driving rehabilitation specialists for optional further evaluation or assistance** | |