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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
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| **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
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| **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** |