

# Consultation to change procedures for registered healthcare professionals

## Privacy notice

This consultation by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA), an executive agency of the Department for Transport (DfT) is to gather opinions to inform our view on making changes to the Road Traffic Act 1988 which will enable healthcare professionals other than Registered Medical Practitioners (doctors) to complete DVLA medical questionnaires.

We are asking for:

- your name and email address. Please note, we will not use these details to contact you
- whether you are representing an organisation or submitting a response as an individual (member of the public)
- the total number of employees in your organisation or business (if applicable)
- your profession. This is to better understand your relationship with the issue

Your consultation response and the processing of personal data that it entails is necessary for the exercise of our functions as a government department. The legal basis for processing your personal data is to perform a task carried out in the public interest, or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller.

The DVLA will, under data protection law, be the controller for this information. The (opens in new window) <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-transport/about/personal-information-charter> has more information about your rights in relation to your personal data, how to complain and how to contact the Data Protection Manager.

Your personal data is processed on behalf of DVLA by SNAP Surveys Ltd. SNAP Surveys Ltd. hosts the survey collection only, and your personal data will not be shared with any other third parties.

We will only retain your personal data for as long as it is needed for the purposes of the consultation.

Please note that your response will be disclosed to the scrutiny committees. If you **do not wish** for your response to this consultation to be disclosed, please put a X in the box below:

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## Personal and organisational details

### Q1 Are you responding as an individual or as an organisation?

- ☐ Individual (e.g., Member of the public) (please answer questions - Q2, Q5-Q12 and Q25 only)
- ☐ Organisation (e.g., Organisation and/or Medical professional)

### Q2 Personal and organisational details\*\*

*\*\* Please note that your personal and organisation details are only used to authenticate a response and DVLA will not use these details to contact you about any response provided.*

Name:

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Organisation Name (if applicable):

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Email address:

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### How large is your organisation?

### Q3

- ☐ 10 people or less
- ☐ Between 11 and 50 people
- ☐ Between 51 and 100 people
- ☐ Between 101 to 150 people
- ☐ More than 150 people

**Q4 What is your profession?**

- ☐ General practitioner
- ☐ Consultant
- ☐ Hospital doctor (Trainee/Non-training grade)
- ☐ Nurse
- ☐ Occupational health professional
- ☐ Optometrist
- ☐ Nurse Practitioner
- ☐ Physician Associate
- ☐ Other (Please provide details at Q4a)

**Q4a** If Other, please specify:

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**Q5** The proposal is to amend the existing legislation to enable other healthcare professionals as well as Registered Medical practitioners (that is any doctor registered with the General Medical Council, with a licence to practise) to complete relevant medical questionnaires to assist the DVLA in determining fitness to drive for holders or applicants of a driving licence.

**To what extent do you agree or disagree with the principal intention of the proposal?**

- ☐ Strongly agree (Please go to Q5a)
- ☐ Agree (Please go to Q5a)
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Disagree (Please go to Q5b)
- ☐ Strongly disagree (Please go to Q5b)
- ☐ Don't know

**Q5a** If you agree with the principal intention of amending the existing legislation, please explain your reasons why:

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**Q5b** If you do not agree with the principal intention of amending the existing legislation, please explain your reasons why:

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**Q6** To what extent do you agree or disagree:

		Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<b>Q6a</b>	That the proposal meets the preconditions for use of a Legislative Reform Order as set out in Section 7 – The Legislative Reform Order Process	<input type="checkbox"/> (Please go to Q6c)	<input type="checkbox"/> (Please go to Q6c)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> (Please go to Q6d)	<input type="checkbox"/> (Please go to Q6d)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Q6b</b>	That if the proposal is implemented, the impact of that would provide greater flexibility and opportunity to General Practice Surgeries and hospital teams completing medical questionnaires. This would allow the GP surgery or hospital team to determine who would be the most appropriate healthcare professional to provide the DVLA with medical information and allow quicker licensing decisions for some customers.	<input type="checkbox"/> (Please go to Q6e)	<input type="checkbox"/> (Please go to Q6e)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> (Please go to Q6f)	<input type="checkbox"/> (Please go to Q6f)	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Q6c** If you agree that the proposal meets the preconditions for use of a Legislative Reform Order, please explain your reasons why:

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**Q6d** If you do not agree that the proposal meets the preconditions for use of a Legislative Reform Order, please explain your reasons why:

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**Q6e** If you agree that this would provide greater flexibility and opportunity to General Practice Surgeries/hospital teams completing medical questionnaires, please explain your reasons why:

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**Q6f** If you do not agree that this would provide greater flexibility and opportunity to General Practice Surgeries/hospital teams completing medical questionnaires, please explain your reasons why:

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**Q7** How else might this proposal impact on GP business practices/hospital team practices and efficiency?

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**Q8** We hope that the proposal will help reduce bureaucracy in the NHS by increasing the scope of those within surgeries and hospitals who can provide the information. That will allow doctors to concentrate on patients rather than time spent on administration.

**The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) define it as:**

The government's focus is on limiting excess bureaucracy, defined as: excessively complex rules (whether legal, organisational or cultural) or assurance and reporting administrative processes, which either have no benefit, or have no net benefit as they are unduly resource intensive, inefficient and time consuming.

**To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal will help reduce bureaucracy in the NHS Service and GP Surgeries?**

- ☐ Strongly agree (Please go to Q8a)
- ☐ Agree (Please go to Q8a)
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Disagree (Please go to Q8b)
- ☐ Strongly disagree (Please go to Q8b)
- ☐ Don't know

**Q8a** If you agree that the proposal will help reduce bureaucracy in the NHS Service and GP Surgeries, please explain your reasons why:

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**Q8b** If you do not agree that the proposal will help reduce bureaucracy in the NHS Service and GP Surgeries, please explain your reasons why:

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**Q9** To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

		Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<b>Q9a</b>	The proposal will improve efficiency for and GP Surgeries and hospital teams	<input type="checkbox"/> (Please go to Q9c)	<input type="checkbox"/> (Please go to Q9c)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> (Please go to Q9d)	<input type="checkbox"/> (Please go to Q9d)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Q9b</b>	The proposal will improve efficiency for the DVLA	<input type="checkbox"/> (Please go to Q9e)	<input type="checkbox"/> (Please go to Q9e)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> (Please go to Q9f)	<input type="checkbox"/> (Please go to Q9f)	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Q9c** If you agree that the proposal will improve efficiency for GP Surgeries/hospital teams, please explain your reasons why:

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**Q9d** If you do not agree that the proposal will improve efficiency for GP Surgeries/hospital teams, please explain your reasons why:

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**Q9e** If you agree that the proposal will improve the efficiency for the DVLA please explain your reasons why:

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**Q9f** If you do not agree that the proposal will improve the efficiency for the DVLA, please explain your reasons why:

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**Q10** If you are aware of any benefits or costs to businesses that have not been identified, please provide details below:

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**Q11** If you are aware of any benefits or costs to society that have not been identified, please provide details below:

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**Q12** If you are aware of, or you believe that there will be any unintended consequences as a result of this proposal, please provide details below:

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**Q13** Have you completed medical questionnaires for the DVLA?

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No (Please go to Q16)

**Q14** What is the average length of time taken to complete a medical questionnaire in your experience?

Average length of time \_\_\_\_\_  
(Estimated time in minutes, to  
the nearest 5 minutes)

**Q15** Have you identified any issues that delay the process?

- ☐ Yes (Please go to Q15a & Q15b)  
☐ No

**Q15a** How can the DVLA improve the **content** of the medical questionnaires?

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**Q15b** How can the DVLA improve the **format** of the medical questionnaires?

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**Q16** Do other healthcare professionals in your practice or hospital currently complete medical questionnaires from a patient's record prior to the form being signed off by a registered medical practitioner?

- ☐ Yes (Please go to Q16a, then Q17)
- ☐ No (Please go to Q18)
- ☐ Don't know (Please go to Q18)

**Q16a** If yes, please explain any reasons for this:

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**Q17** What percentage of medical questionnaires are currently dealt with by other healthcare professionals?  
Please enter numerical %

**18** If the proposal results in a legislative amendment, would your surgery be comfortable in using this option to complete medical questionnaires?

- ☐ Yes (Please go to Q19)
- ☐ No (Please go to Q18a)
- ☐ Don't know (Please go to Q18a)

**Q18a** If your surgery/hospital would not be comfortable in using this option to complete medical questionnaires, please explain your reasons why:

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**Q19** If the proposal results in a legislative amendment and your practice/hospital team implements the proposal, what percentage of medical questionnaires could potentially be dealt with by other healthcare professionals?



Please enter potential  
numerical % \_\_\_\_\_

**Q20** If the proposal results in a legislative amendment and your practice/hospital team implements the proposal, do you anticipate any costs in terms of additional staff training?

- ☐ Yes (Please go to Q21)
- ☐ No (Please go to Q22)
- ☐ Don't know (Please go to Q22)

**Q21** If so, how much would costs increase by?

Anticipated additional costs in \_\_\_\_\_  
£'s to the nearest £100

**Q22** Based on the cost of doctor's time when completing DVLA medical questionnaires, would there be any indirect cost benefit to practises/hospital teams if other healthcare professionals were able to complete the questionnaires?

- ☐ Yes (Please go to Q22a)
- ☐ No (Please go to Q22b)
- ☐ Don't know (Please go to Q22b)

**Q22a** If Yes, please state the role of the person who will be completing the questionnaire and the reason for the cost benefit:

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**Q22b** If No, please state the role of the person who will be completing the questionnaire and explain why there would be no cost benefit:

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**Q23** Some existing indemnity schemes do not cover non-NHS work and GP surgeries/hospital teams may need to clarify with their indemnity provider what cover is included for doctors and ancillary staff in providing this service. Do you have concerns regarding ancillary staff being required to obtain cover for professional representation and additional indemnity cover for any private work they are undertaking on behalf of the practice/hospital team?

**It is not known at this stage what additional costs doctors and other health care professionals may incur; do you think there will be additional costs incurred for this cover/to your policy?**

- ☐ Yes (Please go to Q24)
- ☐ No (Please go to Q25)
- ☐ Don't know (Please go to Q25)

**Q24 To help us understand the potential additional costs of this cover, please specify the costs below:**

Potential additional costs \_\_\_\_\_  
incurred in £'s

**Q25 If you have any further comments or suggestions to make about this consultation, please tell us below:**

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Thank you for taking the time to complete the questions.