Figure 3: Medical decision-making process for assessing fitness to drive

Temporary condition affecting driving ability in the short term, e.g. mydriatics, general anaesthetics, fractures (refer section 2.2.3)

Long-term condition or disability e.g. diabetes, cardiac, neurological, psychiatric

Refer to requirements for licensing

Are the requirements for an unconditional licence met?

YES

Fit to drive (no restrictions or conditions)

NO

NOT SURE

Are the requirements for a conditional licence met?

YES

NO

NOT SURE

Unfit to drive in short term
- Advise patient of appropriate temporary driving restrictions.
- Not a licensing issue, report to driver licensing authority not required.
- May be a fitness-for-duty issue for commercial vehicle drivers – advise driver to notify their employer.

Fit to drive with restrictions/conditions on licence
- Advise patient of legal requirement to notify driver licensing authority.
- Advise/notify driver licensing authority directly as appropriate (refer to Figures 4 and 5).

Not fit to drive
- Advise patient of legal requirement to notify driver licensing authority.
- Advise/notify driver licensing authority directly as appropriate (refer to Figures 4 and 5).

Unsure of fitness to drive
- Refer to appropriate specialist and/or
- Refer for practical driver assessment (refer to section 2.3.1), and/or
- Refer to driver licensing authority.

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