



MONASH University
Accident Research Centre



The Common Cohort Study of Older Drivers

The Monash University Accident Research Centre (MUARC) is conducting an international study to reduce motor vehicle related injuries and deaths and to improve the quality of life of older drivers by extending their safe mobility.

250 drivers aged 75 years and older will be invited to participate in the study for a five year period. Results from this study will help with the development of a simple, objective screening tool that will assist health-care professionals to identify older drivers who may be unsafe and need further assessment of their driving ability.

What is involved?

- Participants will be asked to visit the Peter James Centre three times per year at 4 month intervals: including a clinical assessment (up to 3 hours) which involves completing some questionnaires to test memory and thinking ability, as well as answering questions about current health status and past medical history, driving habits and patterns, and two short visits (30 minutes to 1 hour each).
- Participants will have an In-Car Recording Device installed in their car for the duration of the study. This device will gather some information about driving patterns including the number and duration of trips, speed and braking patterns. It will not harm the car in any way and there is no cost to participants.
- Participants will also be asked to complete an annual on-road driving task (a short drive on a familiar route of the driver's choice) which will take approximately 25 minutes.

Who is eligible?

Individuals are eligible to participate in the study if they:

- are aged 75 years or older;
- have a valid Victorian/Australian Driver's Licence
- are currently driving at least four times a week on average, and
- drive a vehicle that is 2003 or newer
- are willing to attend the Peter James Centre in Burwood three times a year for 5 years.

For more information about this study, please contact **Dr Sjaan Koppel** on **9905 4739**.