



## Accurate Clinic

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[www.AccurateClinic.com](http://www.AccurateClinic.com)

The use of “controlled substances,” including prescription pain medications, muscle relaxers and anxiety medications and other psychiatric medications can be sedating and/or lead to impairment in cognition (thought processing), psychomotor skills (coordination) and the ability to perform physical activity, particularly skilled motor performances. A patient’s ability to drive a motor vehicle or perform other activities involving the use of tools or equipment may be impaired when taking one or more of the medications described above.

As a matter of personal and public safety, therefore, patients prescribed these medications are urged caution when considering whether to drive or perform other safety-sensitive activities that may be potentially impaired by the use of these medications.

The studies that have looked at the performance of driver’s taking such medications have revealed mixed results as to whether the use of these medications at prescribed dosages impairs their driving performance, makes them more likely to commit driving violations or more likely to be involved in a motor vehicle accident. As your physician, therefore, I cannot advise you that it is either safe or unsafe for you to drive or operate machinery while taking the medications that I prescribe for you. This is a decision you must make based on your own self-assessment as well as the assessment of those around you - listen to them if they advise you not to drive!

***What many studies do show is that the drivers at most risk of impairment are those that are on new medications or those that have recently increased their doses of regular medications.***

Obviously, the use of alcohol with any of these medications represents a significant risk for impairment, even at doses or alcohol levels lower than those generally associated with intoxication or impairment.

It is important to note also that studies have also shown that patients suffering from medical conditions or chronic pain may experience cognitive, psychomotor, or physiologic impairment from the medical condition or pain symptoms themselves and the treatment to alleviate these symptoms may improve psychomotor performance. As such, use caution when driving or operating machinery if your pain or other symptoms are poorly controlled.

I have read and understood the warnings above.

Date: ##ShortDate##

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Patient Signature