



# National Transportation Safety Board

## Baltimore, MD School Bus Driver Fitness for Duty

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# Overview

- Incapacitation
- Medical certification
- Opportunities to address driving status and occupation during health-care visits

# Incapacitation

- School bus driver with seizures since childhood
  - Sudden, unpredictable, neurologic episodes
  - Loss of consciousness
  - Uncontrolled, abnormal movements
- Likely incapacitated by a seizure

# School Bus Driver Medical Regulation

- Federal regulation
  - Biennial medical certification
  - Drivers with seizures may obtain a waiver if they meet specific conditions
- Maryland regulation
  - Annual medical certification
  - No waivers

# Baltimore School Bus Driver

- Knew he had seizures since childhood
  - Reported that information to all treating providers
  - Frequently missed doses of medication
  - Admitted he would seize when he did not take medication
- Denied having seizures to occupational providers

# Medical Certification: Obtaining Additional Information

- FMCSA
  - Certifies medical examiners
  - Allows medical examiners to require drivers to provide information from their treating providers
- No other specific guidance



# Concentra

- Developed forms to request additional information from treating physicians
  - Questions regarding *identified* problem
  - No routine request to describe all active medical conditions and treatments

# Electronic Health Records

- Driving status
  - Not a routine part of provider-patient discussion
  - Occupation discussed even less frequently
- “Decision support”
  - Inform providers of occupation
  - Address driving with patients who have episodes of loss of consciousness, report to state driver license agency



# Summary

- School bus driver incapacitated by seizure
- Guidance for certified medical examiners
- Decision support in electronic health record systems to address driving and occupation



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