Health Facts for You



Driving When Using Continuous Inotropic Therapy

If you are using continuous inotropic infusion therapy, you may have driving restrictions. Discuss this with your care team.

Reasons You May Drive

- You have a working defibrillator in place.
- You have been stable on an inotropic infusion for at least 3 months. The defibrillator check shows no symptoms that can cause an altered state.
- You have no dizziness, defibrillator shocks, or arrhythmias.
- A heart failure doctor has decided your condition is stable.
- You have a 4-wheel, enclosed private vehicle to drive.

Vehicles You Cannot Drive

You cannot drive the vehicles listed below. This is not a complete list. Talk with your heart failure doctor if you have questions.

- Business vehicles (taxi cabs, semitrucks, buses, etc.)
- All-terrain vehicles
- Motorcycles

Driving Distance from Home

Talk with your heart failure doctor if you want to drive more than 2 hours away from home. They must give permission.

Changes in Your Condition

Changes in your medical condition (including being in the hospital) may mean you cannot drive. A heart failure doctor will decide when you can drive again.

If these guidelines are **not** followed, we have the right to report unsafe activity to your state's Department of Transportation.

Your health care team may have given you this information as part of your care. If so, please use it and call if you have any questions. If this information was not given to you as part of your care, please check with your doctor. This is not medical advice. This is not to be used for diagnosis or treatment of any medical condition. Because each person's health needs are different, you should talk with your doctor or others on your health care team when using this information. If you have an emergency, please call 911. Copyright © 4/2024 University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Authority. All rights reserved. Produced by the Department of Nursing. HF#7234