



Department  
of Transport  
and Planning

# Medicinal Cannabis and Driving

## 1 March 2025 Amendment to Victoria's Road Safety Act

### Stakeholder Information Pack

MARCH 2025



# Medicinal Cannabis and Driving – 1 March Amendment

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From 1 March 2025, Magistrates will have the option to decide whether or not to cancel a driver's licence of a person who tests positive for THC and is using prescribed medical cannabis.

This document provides information on the change and what it means for patients who are prescribed medicinal cannabis and drive.



We invite you to share this information with your colleagues, members and audiences – particularly those involved in prescribing medicinal cannabis or who are patients using medicinal cannabis.

We have provided:

- Key points of the change
- Information for patients
- E-news story
- Social media post
- Where to find additional information

Visit the [Transport Victoria](#) website.

# Medicinal Cannabis and Driving – 1 March Amendment

## Key points

- From 1 March 2025, the Magistrate's Court of Victoria will have the option to decide whether or not to cancel a driver's licence of a person who tests positive for THC and is using prescribed medical cannabis.
- It is still illegal for someone to drive with any amount of THC in their system, including from medicinal cannabis use.
- Magistrates will consider available evidence including whether the individual has a valid prescription for medicinal cannabis at the time of detection, and evidence of impairment while driving.
- The amendment does not guarantee medical cannabis prescription holders will avoid losing their licence.
- The change does not affect existing impairment drug-driving laws in Victoria.
- Penalties for drug driving can also include a Behaviour Change Program and monetary fines.



IMAGE: Senior female driving a car on road, DTP

# Medicinal Cannabis and Driving – 1 March Amendment

## Information for patients

Patients who are prescribed medicinal cannabis and drive need to know:

- THC in medicinal cannabis can result in impairment.
- It is illegal to drive with any amount of THC in your system, including from medicinal cannabis.
- Fines may apply to anyone detected with THC while driving or riding.
- Challenging an infringement notice in court does not guarantee avoiding loss of your licence.
- Regardless of a court outcome, drivers will still be guilty of a drug driving offence.

Visit [Transport Victoria](#) for information about how medicinal cannabis can impair driving, what the law says about medicinal cannabis and driving, and how to comply with road safety laws.



IMAGE: Car performing a hook turn on road at traffic lights, DTP

# Medicinal Cannabis and Driving – 1 March Amendment

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## E-news story

This information may be distributed within your networks. We suggest channels such as an eDM, bulletin, email or newsletter.

### **Headline: Medicinal Cannabis Amendment to the Road Safety Act in effect 1 March 2025**

From 1 March 2025, Magistrates will have the option to decide whether or not to cancel a driver's licence of a person who tests positive for THC and is using prescribed medical cannabis.

Magistrates will consider available evidence, including whether there was a valid prescription for medicinal cannabis at the time of detection, and evidence of driver impairment.

A court appearance does not guarantee a specific outcome. Even with a prescription for medicinal cannabis, licence holders may still face cancellation of their licence.

Regardless of the court outcome, drivers will still be guilty of a drug driving offence, and the fine will stand.

The change will only apply to people who test positive for THC on or after 1 March 2025. It does not change the way roadside drug driving testing is performed. The infringement process will remain the same and the existing impairment drug driving laws in Victoria do not change.

For more information about on medicinal cannabis and driving, as well as guidance on the latest road safety rules, visit [transport.vic.gov.au/medicinal-cannabis-and-driving](https://transport.vic.gov.au/medicinal-cannabis-and-driving)

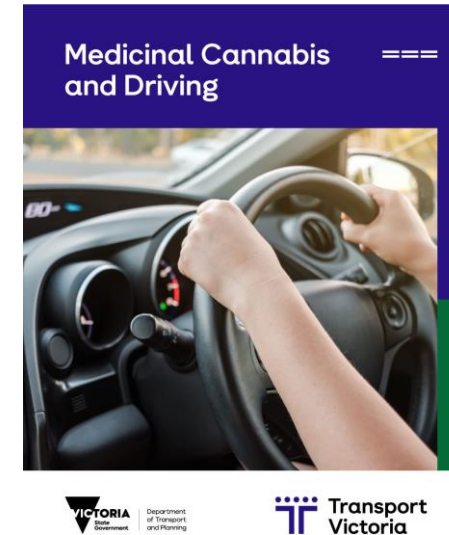
# Medicinal Cannabis and Driving – 1 March Amendment

## Social media post

Social Tile Image: 1080px x 1080px



Social Tile Image: 1080px x 1350px



### Suggested copy version 1:

From 1 March 2025, Magistrates will have the option to decide whether or not to cancel a driver's licence of a person who tests positive for THC and is using prescribed medical cannabis.

Visit [transport.vic.gov.au/medicinal-cannabis-and-driving](https://transport.vic.gov.au/medicinal-cannabis-and-driving)

### Suggested copy version 2:

From 1 March 2025, Magistrates may consider valid prescriptions in court rulings around medicinal cannabis drug driving charges. To find out more visit [transport.vic.gov.au/medicinal-cannabis-and-driving](https://transport.vic.gov.au/medicinal-cannabis-and-driving)

# Medicinal Cannabis and Driving Resources

[Resources](#) are available to help health professionals have conversations with patients who are prescribed medicinal cannabis and what this means for their driving.

## Medicinal Cannabis and Driving Decision Support Resource

This document helps health professionals to understand the driving needs of patients when considering medicinal cannabis treatment. It highlights the importance of road safety as a necessary consideration in the clinical decision-making process.

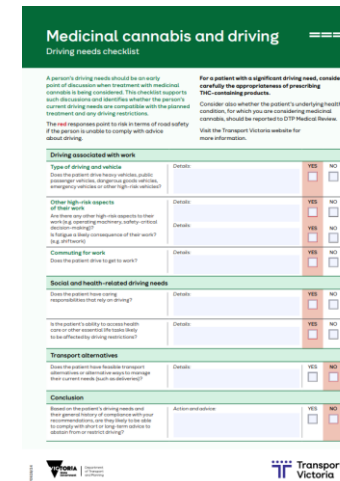
## Medicinal Cannabis Driving Needs Checklist

The checklist helps practitioners to identify their patient's driving needs and discuss whether their driving needs are compatible with any restrictions on driving that may be required. The checklist sits within the Medicinal Cannabis and Decision Support Resource.



Click on the left image to open

IMAGE: Medicinal cannabis and driving support resource (PDF document), Transport Victoria



Click on the left image to open

IMAGE: Medicinal cannabis driving needs checklist (PDF document), Transport Victoria

## Medicinal Cannabis and Driving Factsheet

The factsheet provides essential information about Medicinal Cannabis for drivers in Victoria. Its purpose is to help patients understand the effects these medications may have on their driving ability.

It outlines the responsibility of individuals prescribed medicinal cannabis to comply with current drug-driving laws, highlighting that it is illegal in Victoria to drive with any amount of THC in your system.

More information can be found on our [medicinal cannabis and driving resources for health professionals](#) webpage.

Factsheet March 2025

### Medicinal Cannabis and Driving

Staying safe and understanding Victorian road safety laws

**If you have been prescribed medicinal cannabis for a medical condition or if you are considering medicinal cannabis treatment, it is important to understand what taking these medications means for your driving and your legal obligations.**

This fact sheet provides information on Medicinal Cannabis for drivers in Victoria and will help you understand what you and your treating healthcare professional should consider, including:

- How medicinal cannabis can impair your ability to drive safely.
- What the Victorian law says about medicinal cannabis and driving.
- What steps you can take to make sure you are safe on the road and can comply with road safety laws.

If you have any questions about your specific health and driving circumstances, please ask your healthcare professional.

**What is impairment?**  
Impairment is when a person's mind or body is not working as it is expected to.

Information in this fact sheet does not cover the use of recreational cannabis. However, the information about drug-driving legislation applies to THC regardless of whether it is from medicinal or recreational cannabis.

**How can medicinal cannabis affect safe driving?**

Medicinal cannabis products contain substances called cannabinoids. There are two main types of cannabinoids:

**Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (also called Δ9 THC\* or simply THC)**

- This component causes the 'high' sought by people who use cannabis recreationally (the psychoactive component).
- THC impairs cognitive functions (thinking) and motor coordination (movement and reactions) needed for safe driving.
- This includes impairment of the ability to anticipate hazards and unexpected situations, decision-making and the ability to respond quickly to changes in the traffic environment.

- These effects are not always obvious until you are in a situation that requires a quick response, such as navigating an unfamiliar, busy traffic environment or avoiding an unexpected hazard on the road.

**Cannabidiol (also called CBD)**

- This substance is not psychoactive and therefore does not have the same impairing effects of THC.
- The side effects of CBD can differ to THC and can still affect your driving. They may include drowsiness, fatigue and lowered blood pressure, particularly at higher doses and when taken with other medications.

**An important consideration for driving is whether the medicinal cannabis product contains THC.**

**It is an offence in Victoria to drive with THC in your system.**

\*Δ9 THC is the main psychoactive component in cannabis but there are a number of other types that may be present. For the purposes of this fact sheet, the term THC is used when referring to Δ9 THC.

**Transport Victoria**



Click on the left image to open

# Medicinal Cannabis and Driving Resources

## Transport Victoria Website

The Transport Victoria website has up to date information on legal requirements and other road safety considerations regarding medicinal cannabis and driving on Victoria's roads.

It also provides answers to frequently asked questions, for example:

- Can I drive while taking medicinal cannabis?
- Does all medicinal cannabis contain THC?
- How do Victoria Police test for THC?

Visit [transport.vic.gov.au/medicinal-cannabis-and-driving](https://transport.vic.gov.au/medicinal-cannabis-and-driving)

The screenshot shows the Transport Victoria website page for 'Medicinal cannabis and driving'. The page has a dark blue header with the Transport Victoria logo and a search bar. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for 'Road rules and safety', 'Registration and licensing', 'Business', 'Plan a journey', and 'News and resources'. The main content area has a breadcrumb trail: 'Home / Road rules and safety / Alcohol, drugs and driving / Medicinal cannabis and driving'. The title 'Medicinal cannabis and driving' is prominently displayed, followed by a sub-header 'Alcohol drugs and driving'. Below the title is a paragraph: 'Find out about the rules on taking medicinal cannabis and driving on Victoria's roads.' There are five blue dots below this paragraph. To the right of the main content is a sidebar titled 'On this page' with a list of links: 'Can I drive while taking medicinal cannabis?', 'Why is it illegal to drive while taking medicinal cannabis containing THC?', 'Does all medicinal cannabis contain THC?', 'How do Victoria Police test for THC?', 'Can a valid prescription be used as a defence against a drug driving charge involving medicinal cannabis?', 'When taking medicinal cannabis containing THC, how long does THC remain in my system?', 'What happens if I am involved in a motor vehicle crash while taking medicinal cannabis?', and 'Where can I find more information?'. Below the main content is a section titled 'Can I drive while taking medicinal cannabis?' with a paragraph: 'Many medicinal cannabis products contain Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). It is an offence in Victoria for a person to drive with any amount of THC in their system, including any amount of THC from medicinal cannabis. Penalties for drug driving include a mandatory driver licence suspension.' At the bottom of the screenshot is a caption: '▲ IMAGE: Transport Victoria website, [transport.vic.gov.au/medicinal-cannabis-and-driving](https://transport.vic.gov.au/medicinal-cannabis-and-driving)'

# Thank you

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For more information, please contact  
Road Safety Victoria:

[roadsafetyvictoria@transport.vic.gov.au](mailto:roadsafetyvictoria@transport.vic.gov.au)



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