

### C1 CRITERIA FOR INSULIN DEPENDENT DRIVERS

Recent regulation changes allow insulin dependent drivers to apply for, or renew, their entitlement to drive small lorries with or without a trailer, subject to them meeting all the 'qualifying conditions'.

The qualifying conditions that must be met when applicants apply are as follows:

- (1) They must have had no hypoglycaemic attacks requiring assistance whilst driving within the previous 12 months.
- (2) They will not be able to apply until their condition has been stable for a period of at least one month.
- (3) They must regularly monitor their condition by checking their blood glucose levels at least twice daily and at times relevant to driving. DVLA advise the use of a memory chip meter for such monitoring.
- (4) They must arrange to be examined every 12 months by a hospital consultant, who specialises in diabetes. At the examination the consultation will require sight of their blood glucose records for the last 3 months.
- (5) They must have no other condition, which would render them a danger when driving this type of vehicle.
- (6) They will be required to sign an undertaking to comply with the directions of doctors treating the diabetes and to report immediately to DVLA any significant change to their condition.

It is evident that some licensing authorities who are now operating within group 2 standards are now permitting drivers with insulin treated diabetes to be issued with taxi licences, subject to them satisfying all the above criteria, although as explained above, this decision is entirely down to individual authorities.

At a meeting of the Secretary of State for Transport's Honorary Medical Advisory Panel on Driving and Diabetes Mellitus, the Panel was made aware that some licensing authorities were permitting drivers with insulin treated diabetes to be issued with taxi licences. The Panel was of the view that the group 2 medical was still the best practice standard for drivers, but that it would be reasonable for licensing authorities to accept the C1 criteria above should they wish to do so.

