

Patient Safety Guideline – Driving

We advise our patients to be in a quiet private place when expecting a remote consultation with a clinician

Road Safety

It's safer to pull over to a safe location to have important discussions like a medical consultation. This ensures you can give the conversation your full attention without risking your safety.

1. **Distraction:** Hands-free devices may reduce the physical distraction of holding a phone, but cognitive distraction remains. Engaging in complex or emotionally charged conversations (such as discussing medical issues) can divert your attention from the road.
2. **Cognitive Load:** Medical consultations require focus and attention. While driving, your brain is already processing many tasks like speed, traffic signals, and other vehicles, which can be compromised if you're also focusing on a conversation.
3. **Legal Considerations:** Even hands-free phone use can be considered distracted driving if it affects your ability to operate the vehicle safely. You could be fined or face fixed penalties if you're involved in an accident.