

# UK CAA Head Injury Certification Guidance

Please note that the presence of 2 criteria in the most severe category determines the category to be used for certificatory assessment.

Classification	Criteria	Fitness assessment by medical category	Assessment content
Any early ( $\leq 7$ days) seizure must result in a classification of severe			Class 1 cases to be assessed by CAA apart from minimal (AME) Class 2 cases to be assessed by AME
<b>Minimal</b>	<p><b>All must be present:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any concussive or mild head injury symptoms which have recovered within 48 hours.</li> <li>Initial Glasgow Coma Score (GCS) 15.</li> <li>No loss of consciousness (LOC).</li> <li>No post traumatic amnesia (PTA).</li> <li>No focal neurological deficit.</li> <li>No seizure.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Class 1, 2, 3 &amp; LAPL</b> Unfit until 7 days after full recovery without symptoms.</p>	<p>Medical report from attending doctor. <b>Or</b> AME clinical assessment (if not seen by A+E or GP).</p>
<b>Mild</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any concussive or mild head injury symptoms lasting greater than 48 hours.</li> <li>Initial GCS 12-15.</li> <li>LOC less than 30 minutes.</li> <li>PTA less than 30 minutes.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Class 1, 2, 3 &amp; LAPL</b> Unfit for 6 weeks after full recovery without symptoms.</p> <p><b>Class 1</b> Then OML for further year.</p>	<p>Medical report from attending doctor including investigations. Class 1 &amp; 3 applicants must be referred to CAA for decision. <b>And</b> AME clinical assessment after resolution of symptoms.</p>
<b>Moderate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial GCS 9-12.</li> <li>LOC 30 mins to 24 hours.</li> <li>PTA 30 mins to 24 hours.</li> <li>Linear skull fracture.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Class 1 &amp; 3</b> Unfit 6 months after full recovery without symptoms. Then Class 1 OML for 2 years, Class 3 unrestricted.</p> <p><b>Class 2</b> Unfit for 3 months after full recovery without symptoms. The OSL for further 3 months.</p> <p><b>LAPL</b> Unfit for 3 months after full recovery without symptoms.</p>	<p>Medical report from attending specialist including investigations. CT / MRI mandatory before recertification. Class 1 &amp; 3 applicants must be referred to CAA for decision. <b>And</b> AME clinical assessment after full recovery without symptoms.</p>

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Any early ( $\leq 7$ days) seizure must result in a classification of severe			Class 1 cases to be assessed by CAA apart from minimal (AME) Class 2 cases to be assessed by AME
<b>Severe</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial GCS less than 9.</li> <li>LOC more than 24 hours.</li> <li>PTA more than 24 hours.</li> <li>Transient focal neurological deficit.</li> <li>Brain contusion(s) on CT / MRI or intracranial haemorrhage on CT / MRI.</li> <li>Complex skull fracture.</li> <li>Any operative intervention.</li> <li>Early (<math>\leq 7</math> days) seizure.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Class 1 &amp; 3</b> Unfit 2 years after full recovery without symptoms. Then Class 1 OML long-term, Class 3 unrestricted.</p> <p><b>Class 2</b> Unfit for 1 year after full recovery without symptoms or demonstration of stable, non-disabling symptoms. Then OSL for 1 year.</p> <p><b>LAPL</b> Unfit for 6 months after full recovery without symptoms or demonstration of stable, non-disabling symptoms. Then OSL/OPL for 6 months.</p>	<p><b>Class 1 &amp; 3</b> Applicants must be referred to CAA for decision. Medical report from attending specialist including investigations. CT / MRI mandatory before recertification. Neurocognitive testing must be performed. <b>And</b> Satisfactory medical flight test / simulator proficiency check.</p> <p><b>Class 2 &amp; LAPL</b> Medical report from attending specialist including investigations. CT / MRI mandatory before recertification. AME clinical assessment. <b>And</b> Satisfactory medical flight test.</p>
<b>Very Severe</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Penetrating brain Injury.</li> <li>Significant parenchymal damage, that is, brain contusion on CT / MRI (NB multiple unilateral or bilateral increase risk) +/- intracranial haemorrhage on CT / MRI.</li> <li>Enduring focal neurological deficit.</li> <li>Early (<math>\leq 7</math> days) and /or late (<math>&gt;7</math> days) seizures.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Class 1, 2 &amp; 3</b> Unfit long-term.</p> <p><b>LAPL</b> Unfit 1 year after full recovery without symptoms or demonstration of stable, non-disabling symptoms. Then OSL/OPL long-term.</p>	<p><b>LAPL</b> Medical report from attending specialist including investigations. CT/MRI mandatory before recertification. Satisfactory medical flight test. <b>And</b> AME clinical assessment.</p>