The aim of this study is to assess the driving ability of patients with AD by using the NDFTM and to determine whether or not such individuals with AD should be allowed to continue to drive.

Method: This driving test contains the following 4 parts.

1. Simple response test consisting of 2 sub-items; speed of response and unevenness of response.

2. Selective response test consisting of 3 sub-items; speed of response, accuracy of response, and unevenness of response.

3. Ability to avoid obstacles on the road consisting of 3 sub-items; speed and accuracy of handling, effect of training, and attention.

4. Complex tasks assessment by combining tests 2 and 3.

Each sub-item and the total score were assessed as 5 grade (grade 5 to 1, grade 5 is best score).

Patients: Thirty-four patients with AD (24 male and 10 female, ages 58-83), 9 PD patients without dementia, 8 MCI, and 21 controls.

Results: The total scores in the AD and PD patients were lower than those in the controls; 2, 2, and 3, respectively. Ten of the 34 AD patients were unable to perform all test items; 4 of them in test 2, 2 in test 4, and 3 in both test 2 and 4. Four AD patients showed a score of 1.

Conclusions: The ability of AD patients to drive was particularly poor based on the findings of tests 2 and 4, suggesting that they have problems in both the understanding and performance of complex manipulations.