

Joshua Stevens - Comments

Hi, I am a DOT medical examiner practicing with Concentra in the Kansas City area. I agree with section vii that SAE levels 4-5 may be appropriate for some type of modification from current physical standards and would point to the military system as precedent. UAV pilots and air traffic control personnel for example fall under a less rigorous evaluation and retention standards than actively airborne aircrew. So it may be worthwhile to consider an 'exemption' along those lines for operators who solely function as remote overseers of a fully autonomous vehicle. These operators should still receive periodic physicals to rule out unpredictable and/or potentially incapacitating pathology, however certain conditions such as diabetic neuropathy may be a less significant issue in these operators. In this way, they may then continue to utilize their training and experience to serve the carrier in a safe manner.