IMPAIRED DRIVING QUIZ

ALCOHOL • DRUGS • MEDICATIONS

TRUE OR FALSE

1 I can be arrested even with a blood alcohol concentration under 0.08.

TRUE FALSE

2 I can refuse to take a police officer's breathalyzer test or drug screening test.

TRUE FALSE

3 I drank too much or took drugs. I can wait it out in my car.

TRUE FALSE

There are many things you can do to eliminate traces of alcohol and drugs from your system.

TRUE

FALSE

5 Combining alcohol with drugs multiplies the effects on your ability to drive.

TRUE

FALSE

6 Police officers can detect drivers who are under the influence of drugs or medication.

TRUE FALSE

7 No penalties exist for drugs and driving that are equivalent to those for drinking and driving.

TRUE FALSE

8 I can fool police officers' tests because I'm used to taking drugs/alcohol.

TRUE

FALSE

9 I'm a better driver under the influence of cannabis.

TRUE

FALSE

10 I can't be arrested if I no longer feel the effects of cannabis.

TRUE

FALSE

11 Medications pose no danger to driving.

TRUE

FALSE

IF YOU HAVE TAKEN ALCOHOL OR DRUGS, FIND AN ALTERNATIVE SOLUTION:

- Designated driver
- · Taxi or public transit
- The hospitality of friends
- Drive-home service

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ANSWERS

- 1 TRUE. According to the Criminal Code, you can be arrested and convicted if your ability to drive is impaired by alcohol or drugs (including medication), or if you have a concentration of drugs in your blood.
- 2 FALSE. Refusing to obey the order of a peace officer automatically results in the stiffest penalties (suspension of your licence, seizure and impoundment of the vehicle, etc.).
- 3 FALSE. According to the *Criminal Code*, you can be arrested and convicted for having care or control of a vehicle if your ability to drive is impaired by alcohol or drugs, or if you have a blood alcohol concentration or blood drug concentration at or above the legal limit. Here are some examples of having care or control of a vehicle: sitting in the driver's seat, sleeping in the back seat, putting things in the trunk or listening to music, all while having the possibility of starting the vehicle.
- 4 FALSE. There are no tricks to speeding up the elimination of alcohol or drugs—only time works. Showering, drinking coffee, running, dancing and sweating won't change anything. It takes several hours to eliminate all traces of alcohol or drugs, even several days for certain drugs.
 - In addition, the concentration of alcohol in your blood continues to increase and reaches its maximum one hour after the last drink.
- **5 TRUE.** Consuming alcohol and drugs at the same time greatly hinders your ability to drive.

- 6 TRUE. Police officers are trained to detect signs of impaired driving. Failing the following tests can lead to penalties under the Highway Safety Code and the Criminal Code:
 - On the side of the road: physical coordination tests (balance, walking, eye movement).
 - At the police station: evaluating officers and more extensive tests (pulse, temperature, pupils, muscle tone).
- 7 FALSE. Penalties exist under the Highway Safety Code as well as under the Criminal Code (e.g. criminal record, loss of driver's licence, fines, alcohol ignition interlock device, imprisonment).
- 8 FALSE. These tests cannot be fooled. For example, an impaired person's eyes will produce involuntary movements. This is one of the things the police officer will check on the side of the road. At the police station, a urine test will confirm the substance that was taken.
- 9 FALSE. Like other drugs, cannabis affects a person's ability to drive: slower reaction times, more difficulty controlling the trajectory and coordinating movements.
- 10 FALSE. Even if you no longer feel the effects of cannabis, if the police officer believes that you drove a vehicle with drugs in your system, he or she can make you undergo screening tests. Red eyes, slurred speech and lethargy are signs that drugs are present in the body.
- 11 FALSE. Some medication, whether bought over the counter in a drug store (medication for colds, allergies, nausea, etc.) or prescribed by your physician (antidepressants, painkillers, sleeping pills, etc.) can impair your driving. Check with your health care professional to find out how they affect driving and always carefully read the indications on the containers.

