

Physician Approval Form

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Applicant Information – please print clearly.

Full Name	Birth Date
Address	
Post & State	Country
Phone	E-mail
Family physician contact information	
Name	Clinic / Hospital
Phone	E-mail / Fax

Physician Information – please print clearly.

The person identified above hereinafter Applicant is applying for training or is presently certified to engage in scuba diving activities thru Disabled Divers International. Your opinion is requested of the applicant’s medical fitness for scuba diving. General standard contraindications to scuba diving is attached for reference.

Please consider if any of the applicant’s medical conditions may make scuba diving activities incompatible or a threat to the applicant or others, also consider if any limitations or conditions to the activities may change such incompatibility or threat to normal levels allowing scuba diving activities.

Limitations, Conditions and Comments

Please print clearly any limitations, conditions and comments to the applicant’s medical approval for Scuba Diving activities. Any limitation enforceable may be used, including but not limited to the following examples: max depth 6m, max dive time 20 min, must dive with 3, min water temp 25°C, no salt water, pool only, mark certification card with “Diabetic”/”Epileptic”/”Allergic”, approval expires on date, “separate signed page 1 of 1”, must use full face mask, etc.

- APPROVAL** - I find no medical conditions in the applicant that I consider incompatible with scuba diving.
- LIMITED APPROVAL** - If compliant to above described limitations and conditions, I find no medical conditions in the applicant that I consider incompatible with scuba diving activities using DDI training and standards.
- DISAPPROVAL** - I am unable to recommend this applicant for scuba diving.

Name	,MD	Clinic / Hospital
Address		
Phone	E-mail / Fax	
Signature & Date		
Physician’s Signature or Legal Representative of Medical Practitioner		

Need advice or information? Contact the DDI Medical Board at medical@ddivers.org or +45 773 4 02 34

Reference Medical Contraindications for Diving

list of relative and absolute contraindications is not all inclusive. Contraindications that are absolute permanently place the diver and his diving partners at increased risk for injury or death. Relative contraindications to scuba may be resolved with time and proper medical intervention or may be intermittent.

A bibliography is included to aid in clarifying issues that arise. The Divers Alert Network (DAN) physicians are available for consultation by phone (919) 684-2948 during normal business hours. For diving related emergencies call, DAN at (919) 684-8111 24 hours, 7 days a week.

<p>OTOLARYNGOLOGICAL</p> <p>Relative Contraindications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – significant cold injury to pinna – TM perforation – Tympanoplasty – Mastoidectomy – mid-face fracture – head and/or neck herapeutic radiation – temporomandibular joint dysfunction • Recurrent otitis externa • Significant obstruction of the external auditory canal • Eustachian tube dysfunction • Recurrent otitis media or sinusitis • Significant conductive or sensorineural hearing impairment • Facial nerve paralysis not associated with barotraumas • Full prosthodontic devices • Unhealed oral surgery sites <p>Absolute Contraindications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Stapedectomy – ossicular chain surgery – inner ear surgery – round window rupture – vestibular decompression sickness • Monomeric TM • Open TM perforation • Tube myringotomy • Facial nerve paralysis secondary to • Barotraumas • Inner ear disease other than presbycusis • Uncorrected upper airway obstruction • Laryngectomy or status post partial laryngectomy • Tracheostomy • Uncorrected laryngocele 	<p>CARDIOVASCULAR</p> <p>Relative Contraindications:</p> <p>The suggested minimum criteria for stress testing are 13 METS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CABG or PCTA for CAD – myocardial infarction – dysrhythmia requiring medication for suppression • Hypertension • Valvular regurgitation • Asymptomatic mitral valve prolapsed • Pacemakers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note: Pacemakers must be depth certified by the manufacturer to at least 130 feet (40 meters) of sea water. <p>Absolute Contraindications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asymmetric sepal hypertrophy and valvular stenosis • Congestive heart failure 	<p>METABOLIC AND ENDOCRINOLOGICAL</p> <p>Relative Contraindications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hormonal excess or deficiency • Obesity • Renal insufficiency <p>Absolute Contraindications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diabetics on Insulin therapy or oral anti-hypoglycemia medication
<p>NEUROLOGICAL</p> <p>Relative Contraindications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – head injury with sequelae other than seizure – spinal cord or brain injury without residual neurologic deficit – cerebral gas embolism without residual, pulmonary air trapping has been excluded • Migraine headaches whose symptoms or severity impair motor or cognitive function • Herniated nucleus pulposus • Peripheral neuropathy • Trigeminal neuralgia • Cerebral palsy in the absence of seizure activity <p>Absolute Contraindications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – seizures other than childhood febrile seizures – TIA or CVA – spinal cord injury, disease or surgery with residual sequelae – Type II (serious and/or central nervous system) decompression sickness with permanent neurologic deficit – Intracranial tumor or aneurysm 	<p>PULMONARY</p> <p>Asthma (reactive airway disease), COPD cystic or cavitating lung diseases all may lead to air trapping.</p> <p>Relative Contraindications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – prior asthma or reactive airway disease (RAD)* – exercise/cold induced bronchospasm (EIB) – solid, cystic or cavitating lesion • Pneumothorax secondary to: thoracic surgery *, trauma or pleural penetration*, previous over inflation injury* • Restrictive Disease** <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (*Air Trapping must be excluded) (**Exercise Testing necessary) <p>Absolute Contraindications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of spontaneous pneumothorax • Active RAD (asthma), EIB, COPD or history of the same with abnormal PFS or positive challenge • Restrictive diseases with exercise impairment 	<p>PREGNANCY</p> <p>Absolute Contraindications:</p> <p>Venous gas emboli formed during decompression may result in fetal malformations. Diving is absolutely contraindicated during any state of pregnancy.</p>
	<p>GASTROINTESTINAL</p> <p>Relative Contraindications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peptic ulcer disease • Inflammatory bowel disease • Malabsorption states • Functional bowel disorders • Post gastrectomy dumping syndrome • Paraesophageal or hiatal hernia <p>Absolute Contraindications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High grade gastric outlet obstruction • Chronic or recurrent small bowel obstruction • Entrocutaneous fistulae that do not drain freely • Esophageal diverticula • Severe gastroesophageal reflux • Achalasia • Unrepaired hernias of the abdominal wall potentially containing bowel 	<p>HEMATOLOGICAL</p> <p>Relative Contraindications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sickle cell trait • Acute anemia <p>Absolute Contraindications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sickle cell disease • Polycythemia • Leukemia
		<p>ORTHOPEDIC</p> <p>Relative Contraindications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronic Back Pain • Amputation • Scoliosis - assess impact on pulmonary function • Aseptic osteonecrosis <p>BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</p> <p>Relative Contraindications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – drug or alcohol abuse – previous psychotic episodes • Developmental delay <p>Absolute Contraindications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of panic disorder • Inappropriate motivation for scuba training • Claustrophobia and agoraphobia • Active psychosis or while receiving psychotropic medications • Drug or alcohol abuse <p>BIBLIOGRAPHY</p> <p>The Physiology and Medicine of Diving, 4th edition, 1993;</p> <p>Diving and Subaquatic Medicine, 3rd edition 1994; Diving Physiology</p>