

OSA QUICK-START for the AME

(03-04-2015)

The AME while performing the triage function must conclude one of six possible determinations. The AME is **not** required to perform the assessment or to comment on the presence or absence of OSA. For more information on this process, see the FAA's [instructional video](#).

Step 1 - Determine into which group (1-6) the airman falls.

Applicant Previously Assessed:

Group 1: Has OSA diagnosis and is on Special Issuance. Reports to follow.

Group 2: Has OSA diagnosis OR has had previous OSA assessment. NOT on Special Issuance. Reports to follow.

Applicant Not at Risk:

Group 3: Determined to NOT be at risk for OSA at this examination.

Applicant at Risk/Severity to be assessed:

Group 4: Discuss OSA risk with airman and provide educational materials.

Group 5: At risk for OSA. AASM sleep apnea assessment required.

Applicant Risk/Severity Extremely High:

Group 6: Deferred. Immediate safety risk. AASM sleep apnea assessment required. Reports to follow.

Step 2 – Document findings in Block 60.

Step 3 – Check appropriate triage box in the AME Action Tab.

Step 4 – Issue, if otherwise qualified.

In assessing airmen for groups 4 and 5, the AME is expected to use their own clinical judgment, using AASM information, when making the triage decision.

Some AMEs have voiced the desire to perform the OSA assessment. **While we do not recommend it**, the AME may perform the OSA assessment provided that it is in accordance with the clinical practice guidelines established by the American Academy of Sleep Medicine.*

*If a sleep study is conducted, it must be interpreted by a sleep medicine specialist.