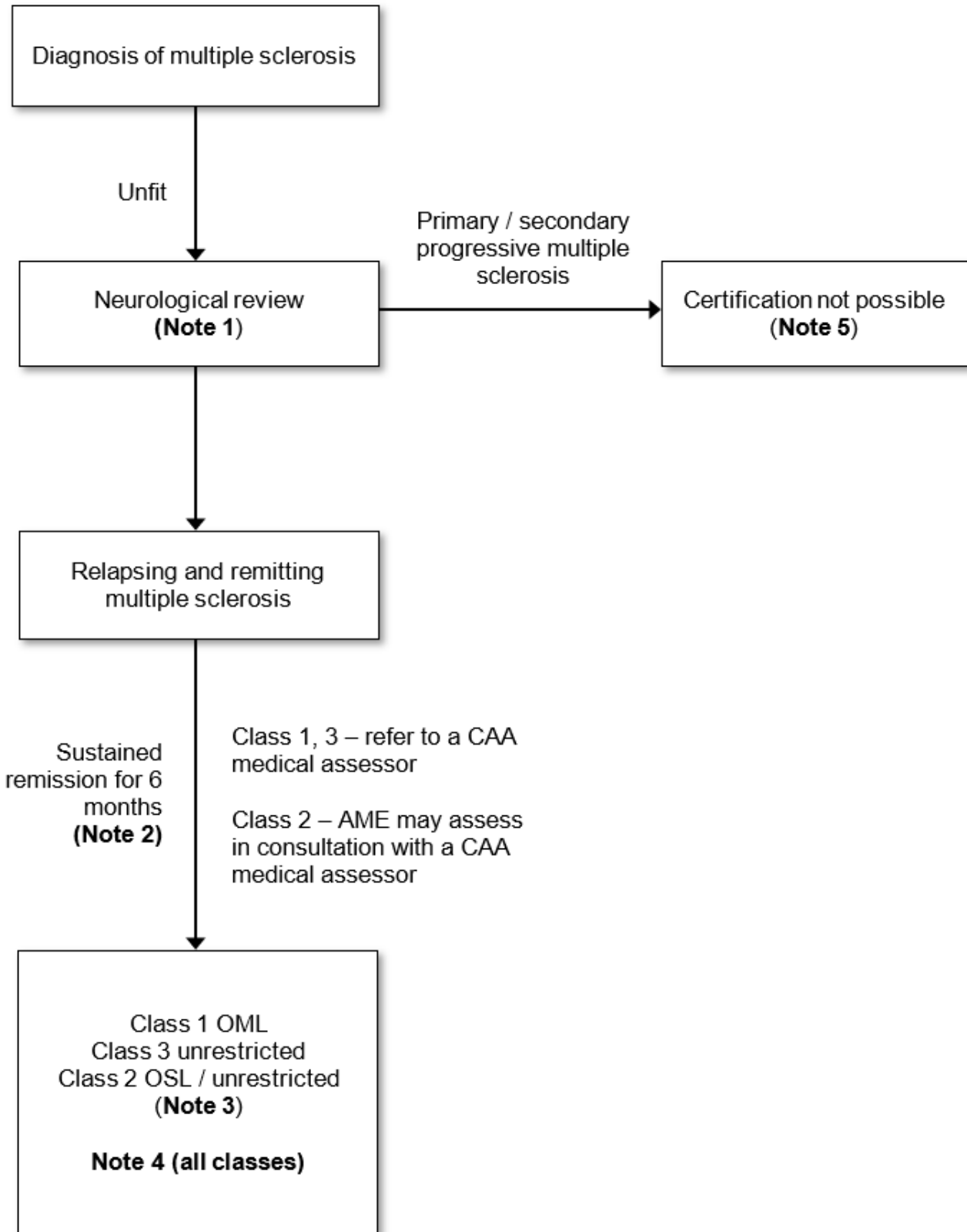




Class 1, 2, 3 certification following a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis

This flow chart sets out the medical certification process for pilots and air traffic controllers (ATCO) following a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis (MS).



Initial certification (Note 1)

Class 1 Initial Class 1 certification is not possible.

Class 2 / 3 Initial certification may be possible after full clinical remission for a minimum of six months (see Note 2).

Applicants with clinically or radiologically isolated syndrome will be assessed on a case by case basis.

Clinical and radiological remission (Note 2)

Class 1 / 3 Class 1 revalidation / renewal and all Class 3 applicants require referral to a CAA medical assessor after full clinical remission has been achieved for a minimum of six months. Report from MS specialist and interval MRI scans should be made available.

Class 2 AMEs may assess Class 2 applicants in consultation with a CAA medical assessor after full clinical remission has been achieved for a minimum of six months. Report from MS specialist and interval MRI scans should be made available.

A medical flight test in a relevant aircraft / flight simulator should be obtained for Class 1 / 2 applicants. Functional assessment in an operating / simulated environment should be considered for Class 3 applicants.

Medication and other disease modifying therapies will be considered on a case by case basis. Fitness assessment associated with newer treatment regimes should be referred to a CAA medical assessor.

Certification and follow up (Note 3)

Class 1 / 3 Report from an annual review by MS specialist to include interval MRI scans.

Class 3 Appropriate limitations may be required for some applicants.

Class 2 Unrestricted certification may be possible with full clinical remission, stable interval MRI imaging and a score of 2 or less on the Kurtzke Expanded Disability Status Scale for a minimum of 2 years.

Report from an annual review by MS specialist to include interval MRI scans.

A medical flight test / ATCO functional assessment and / or other specialist reports (for example, ophthalmology) may be considered at any stage, including following a change of medication, to demonstrate that flying / controlling can be conducted safely.

Medication change (Note 4)

A change of MS disease modifying medication will usually be recommended due to evidence of clinical and / or radiological relapse. Where medication is changed for any reason, grounding / suspension from duties will be necessary to assess adverse effects and evidence of sustained remission for 6 months with stable interval MRI imaging will be required.

Primary progressive disease (Note 5)

Symptomatic primary progressive disease is not compatible with Class 1 certification. Depending on functional ability, a period of stability may permit certification for Class 2 with an operational safety pilot limitation (OSL). Class 3 with a proximity condition (APC) may be considered on a case by case basis, subject to regular neurological review and stable interval MRI imaging.