

Joining is as
easy as...



Association of British Clinical Diabetologists

www.diabetologists-abcd.org.uk

The Association of British Clinical Diabetologists (ABCD) is a professional organisation established in 1997 with the principal objective of ensuring high quality care for all UK diabetes patients.

ABCD is now securely established as the leading professional organisation for UK diabetes specialists with official links to, and representation on, diabetes related national bodies and organisations.

We would very much welcome you to the Association, which already represents over 2 out of every 3 consultant diabetologists. By joining ABCD you can help to influence the future of diabetes services and ensure that the unique long-established repository of skill and knowledge of specialist diabetologists continues to be at the heart of diabetes care.

Aims and objectives of ABCD

ABCD is committed to the preservation and promotion of diabetes specialist care services. ABCD envisage a multi-faceted role for specialist diabetologist physicians working across all health sectors, leading in service development and provision of high quality care, and in the education and support of people living with diabetes, as well as primary and secondary care health care professionals. In addition ABCD aim to:

- Promote awareness of and interest in diabetes mellitus and diabetes care both locally and nationally.
- Encourage clinical research into diabetes mellitus in all care settings.
- Support diabetologists dealing with management issues as they apply to the provision of diabetes services.
- Provide education and support for Specialist Registrars in Diabetes & Endocrinology and other medical staff involved in the care of diabetic patients.

Why join?

We hold 2 highly regarded meetings each year (invited talks, debate and poster sessions) - one in London each autumn, and a spring meeting in other parts of the UK. Membership subscriptions entitle members to discounted delegate rates (which effectively covers the cost of membership at just one meeting) as well as entitlement to all the other benefits of membership:-

- Opportunity to submit bids for the annual ABCD Clinical audit award (currently £30K grant).
- Support from ABCD for the Clinical Excellence Award scheme - ABCD is the recognised specialist organisation which nominates colleagues for all levels of award in collaboration with RCP.
- Contribution to online national audits with potential to record national experience of new therapies.
- Access to secure members section of ABCD website and Powerpoint presentations from ABCD meetings.
- Receipt of the ABCD newsletter twice yearly - designed to keep members in touch with the activities of the Association and its members, and to act as a forum for discussion of important and topical clinical and professional issues.

Ways in which ABCD can help members and influence diabetes care services in the UK.

- ABCD support the Kings Fund Consultant Diabetologist and SpR Leadership courses.
- ABCD have regular engagement with the National Clinical Director for Diabetes.
- ABCD is formally represented on the Joint Speciality Committee for Endocrinology and Diabetes and the Council of the Royal College of Physicians. It has effective links with Diabetes UK, the Primary Care Diabetes Society, and the Society for Endocrinology.
- ABCD have co-ordinated 2 extensive surveys of specialist diabetes services with Diabetes UK, supporting consultants in service development.
- ABCD is collaborating with the Federation of Royal Colleges of Physicians to organise the Knowledge Based Assessment-MRCP (Diabetes-Endocrinology) exam.
- ABCD regularly submit evidence to important national bodies such as the NICE Technical Appraisals and Guidelines programme.
- ABCD produces peer-reviewed position statements and guidelines designed to support high quality patient care.
- ABCD has worked with the RCGP and Department of Health to support the development of diabetes services in primary care.
- ABCD is engaged with the NHS Alliance in developing the commissioning of integrated diabetes services.
- ABCD is investing in clinical operational research and audit of diabetes care in areas of routine clinical practice where it is often difficult to attract funding support.
- The Association has established The ABCD Diabetes Trust to help raise the funds needed to achieve the aims and objectives of the Association. The Board of Trustees includes a lay chairman, a patient representative and the Officers of the Association.

How can ABCD help you in your practice?

- Twice-yearly national educational conferences of high standard are tailored to meet the needs of clinical diabetologists. These well attended and enjoyable meetings offer a unique opportunity to network and discuss clinical and management problems with colleagues. Programmes are developed in response to current issues and to requests from the membership. Endocrine topics are included on a regular basis.
- ABCD organises free highly interactive meetings for Specialist Registrars, covering clinical, professional and service development issues.
- The Association issues mailshots about issues of general and/or urgent interest to the membership.
- The ABCD website includes reports on meetings and other interesting and useful information relating to the activities of ABCD and its members. It also provides useful links to other relevant websites.
- Advice and support for members, including the opportunity for peer review if there are problems with the local diabetes service.
- ABCD plans to provide support for sabbatical leave to allow specialists to carry out activity for the Association.

ABCD is your organisation

The Association is run by its Officers and Executive Committee, who meet at least twice a year and report back to the Annual General Meeting which is held in the spring. The Officers and Committee members are elected at the AGM and any major changes in constitution or activities have to be approved by the AGM. Currently the Officers of the Association, all practising clinical diabetologists, are:

Peter Winocour, Honorary Chairman

Chris Walton, Honorary Treasurer

Ian Gallen, Honorary General Secretary

Dinesh Nagi, Honorary Meetings Secretary

The committee has young consultant, senior academic and specialist registrar representation, as well as representatives for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

Membership of ABCD is open to UK Consultant Diabetologists and Specialist Registrars in Endo/DM. Other specialists who have made significant contributions to diabetes care may be eligible to join (by invitation of the committee). Membership costs only £50.00 per year.

Further information can be obtained from the Secretariat:

Elise Harvey

ABCD Secretariat

Red Hot Irons Ltd

P O Box 2927

Malmesbury

SN16 0WZ

Tel: 01666 840589

Email: eliseharvey@redhotirons.com

We hope that if you are not already a member, you will consider joining the Association. If you are a member, please pass on this leaflet to a colleague who has not yet joined. Applicants should complete the Membership Application Form (also available on the ABCD website) and send it to the Secretariat (details as above).

www.diabetologists-abcd.org.uk