

Making diabetes
better can be as
easy as...



Association of British Clinical Diabetologists

www.diabetologists-abcd.org.uk

How can you help to improve the lives of
people with diabetes?

...by making a donation or bequest to the ABCD Diabetes Trust

Diabetes is a common, unobtrusive but deadly disease. It is one of the main causes of:

- blindness
- kidney failure
- foot and leg amputations
- heart disease and stroke
- premature death

It is estimated that there are currently 1.5 million people with known diabetes in the UK and that there may be another million people who have the condition but who have not yet been diagnosed. The number is increasing at an alarming rate (predicted to double world wide by 2025). This will pose an enormous challenge to society over the coming decades, in terms of costs to health services and the personal burden of disability and suffering. Quite possibly, you may have a relative or friend with diabetes so you will have some acquaintance with this potentially very serious disease.

Intensive research into the causes and treatment of diabetes continues but a cure is probably still many years away. In the meantime it is very important that everything possible be done to improve the day to day healthcare and support for people with diabetes. This includes helping them acquire the necessary knowledge and skills to accurately control the condition because this will delay or prevent the development of many of the serious complications of the disease.

The ABCD Diabetes Trust can make a difference.

The general aims of ABCD are:

- To ensure the highest quality of care for diabetic patients both in hospitals and in primary care.
- To promote awareness of and interest in diabetes mellitus and diabetes care both locally and nationally.
- To provide a source of information about diabetes care health service managers and other staff involved in diabetes care.
- To provide high quality education programmes in diabetes care for established and trainee diabetes specialists and other medical staff involved in the care of people with diabetes.
- To encourage clinical research into diabetes mellitus both in hospital clinics and in the community.
- To support diabetes specialists in dealing with management issues as they apply to the provision of diabetes services.

All of these aims have as a common goal improving the clinical care of people with diabetes. Whilst other organisations focus more on basic laboratory research, the ABCD Diabetes Trust concerns itself with supporting the equally important but comparatively neglected area of clinical research, that is research on how to improve the medical care of people with diabetes in the real day to day world.

Some of the valuable work carried out by the ABCD Diabetes Trust.

The ABCD Diabetes Trust has supported many important national initiatives including:

- National surveys of diabetes services, to inform the development of the NHS plans for diabetes care.
- The provision of expert advice to national representative and advisory bodies such as the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) and the National Service Framework for Diabetes (NSF).
- Training for specialists and registrars (the consultants of the future) by means of high quality educational meetings.
- Multi-centre clinical research studies and audits in areas of clinical diabetes practice which are important but comparatively neglected by other medical funding bodies.

Thus the ABCD Diabetes Trust complements that of mainstream research-funding bodies which concentrate more on basic science rather than day to day care.

Why not make an annual donation or bequest to the ABCD Diabetes Trust?

Whilst we realise that there are innumerable worthwhile charities that are looking for your help, by supporting the ABCD Diabetes Trust you will be doing something very worthwhile to directly benefit practical diabetes care. Whatever you can afford to give will be very gratefully received and used to good purpose. The work of the Trust is largely carried out by unpaid volunteers so administrative overheads are minimal.

Cheques should be made payable to "The ABCD Diabetes Trust" and sent to the Honorary Treasurer at the address given below. If you are able to help, please consider the Gift Aid Scheme. By giving money in this way you will be maximising the value of your donation as the ABCD Diabetes Trust will be able to reclaim tax. An ABCD Gift Aid Form is available from the Treasurer and on the ABCD website. If you are considering leaving a legacy to the ABCD Diabetes Trust, please consult your solicitor to find out how to do this.

All donations will be acknowledged promptly. The Trust is very grateful for whatever help you are able to give.

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If you would like to know more about the Association of British Clinical Diabetologists, please visit the ABCD website at www.diabetologists-abcd.org.uk