

Corporate sponsorship of...



Association of British Clinical Diabetologists

www.diabetologists-abcd.org.uk

Introduction

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. To this end, ABCD is committed to the preservation and promotion of diabetes specialist care services. ABCD believe that local diabetes specialists are uniquely qualified to provide leadership and support for district diabetes services, including primary care and patient groups.

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

Aims and objectives of ABCD

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 resource of information about diabetes care for Specialist Registrars training for a CCST in Diabetes & Endocrinology and other medical staff involved in the care of diabetic patients.
- To encourage clinical research into diabetes mellitus both in hospitals and in primary care.
- To support diabetologists dealing with management issues as they apply to the provision of diabetes services.

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).

ABCD support for developing diabetes services.

- ABCD is working actively to improve diabetes care and to ensure that the voice of the diabetes specialist is heard and heeded at local and national level.
- ABCD is formally represented on the Joint Speciality Committee for Endocrinology and Diabetes at the Royal College of Physicians and on the Council of the Endocrine Section of the Royal Society of Medicine. It has established effective links with Diabetes UK and Primary Care Diabetes UK.
- ABCD has submitted evidence to a number of important national bodies and initiatives, including the NSF for diabetes and NICE Technical Appraisals (glitazones, long acting insulin analogues, insulin pumps, diabetes education etc.)

- A detailed survey of UK Specialist Care Diabetes /Services sponsored by ABCD in 2000 provided valuable information to the Department of Health to support the development of the NSF.
- ABCD is publishing a series of authoritative position statements giving specialised advice on such topics as use of glitazones and the organisation of retinopathy screening.
- ABCD has worked with the Royal College of General Practitioners and the Department of Health to support the development of diabetes services in primary care. Initiatives to which ABCD has contributed include the development of the role of the General Practitioner with a Special Interest in Diabetes.
- Recognising that three quarters of diabetes specialists also practise endocrinology, ABCD has developed close links with specialist endocrine organisations including the British Thyroid Association and the British Endocrine Society.
- ABCD is investing in clinical operational research and the audit of diabetes care, areas which are not as well supported by other mainstream funding bodies. ABCD plans to establish Clinical Research Fellowships and to facilitate multi-centre clinical studies, especially in areas of routine clinical practice, eg. monitoring of control, screening for complications etc. where it is often difficult to attract funding support.
- The Association has established The ABCD Diabetes Trust (charity no. 1074191) to raise and manage the funds needed to achieve the aims and objectives of the Association. The Board of Trustees includes a lay chairman, a patient representative and three Officers of the Association. It reports back to the Association at the Annual General Meeting.

Corporate sponsorship of ABCD

Corporate membership is designed to meet the needs of pharmaceutical companies with interests in diabetes and cardiovascular disease who wish to support the Association.

Key features:

- Corporate sponsorship entitles your company to send two senior executives or medical advisors to any ABCD meeting.
- These company employees would be entitled to attend all ABCD functions except the Committee Meetings and Annual General Meeting.
- The number of corporate sponsors will be initially limited to 10, selected by the Committee on the basis of past and present commitment to clinical diabetes care and support for ABCD.
- Additional benefits for corporate sponsors include:
 - The opportunity to have a stand with two additional representatives at one (but not necessarily both) of the two ABCD clinical meetings each year.
 - An opportunity to include company leaflets and circulars with ABCD mailshots to all consultant and SpR diabetologists.
 - The opportunity to sponsor an issue of the ABCD newsletter. In return for an additional fee this sponsorship arrangement will include exclusive advertising rights in the particular issue.
 - 20 free copies of the ABCD newsletter for distribution to company employees.
 - Acknowledgement of company support in meeting programmes, the newsletter, other ABCD literature and the ABCD website.
 - The opportunity to hold single company educational meetings jointly with ABCD.
 - The opportunity to include a brief statement of company philosophy, policy and products in ABCD meeting programmes.
 - The opportunity to have a reciprocal link to the ABCD website.
 - Access to ABCD consultancy advice concerning research and marketing issues.

ABCD 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

Further information can be obtained from the Honorary Treasurer:

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