



*Association for
Continence Advice*

*Professionals United in
Continence Care*

*Who We Are &
What We Do*

*The Association for health and allied care
professionals concerned with the promotion of continence and the
better management of incontinence*

Registered Charity No 1054
Limited Company by Guarantee No 3029494

Association for Continence Advice

The ACA is a multi-professional association open to all health and allied care professionals and to those who have a concern for the promotion of continence and the better management of incontinence.

The ACA started in 1980 with a questionnaire sent to every Health Authority and Board in the UK seeking to identify concerned professionals. At that time there were only 19 nurses in the UK identified as Continence Advisors; now most NHS Trusts and many private healthcare organisations have staff designated as continence specialists.

As continence care has changed, so too has the complexity of members' backgrounds, with physiotherapists, occupational therapists, midwives, hospital, practice and district nurses, health visitors, lecturers, researchers, NHS managers, health care assistants, nursing homes and doctors increasingly represented alongside the central core of continence specialists.

The number of overseas members has also increased, reflecting that the pioneering work of the early founders has gained recognition throughout the world.

Benefits to members

ACA Conference & Exhibition

The ACA annual conference has become one of the highlights of the year: there is a full scientific programme and a large specialist trade exhibition providing access to the latest products and technological advances for the better treatment and management of incontinence. An ACA conference is a stimulating and thought-provoking event, designed to meet as broad a spectrum of needs as possible, providing excellent educational opportunities as well as the opportunity to network and socialise with colleagues. Members attend at reduced rates.

ACA Research and Development Grants

Through close partnership working with our corporate members, the Association is often able to offer grants to its individual members to promote or research a particular aspect of their clinical work. Such grants (including the application process) are publicised in the ACA Journal as they become available.

ACA Newsletter

The ACA's newsletter provides members with articles covering clinical issues, research, product news, information and updates on courses and conferences as well as branch and national news. This is circulated free of charge to members.

ACA Corporate Members

Our Corporate Members continue to give valued support to the ACA in a diverse number of ways and are closely involved in branch activities and the national conference.



Association for Continence Advice

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Professionals united in
continence care

Annual Membership Application Form

Please complete this application form and return it with chosen payment method for the relevant amount.

Membership Groups

Full Member	Open to individuals who are qualified health or allied care professionals and to others at the discretion of the Executive Committee
Associate Member	Open to those individuals who do not hold recognised professional health or allied care qualifications, but who work in paid employment in continence promotion and care and who wish to support the work of the Charity: and students working towards a recognised health or allied care qualification
Group Member	Available through nominated representatives to Statutory Authorities, Nursing Homes and Voluntary Organisations
Retired Member	Offered to those individuals who are retired members of the Charity

The ACA has 10 regional Branches. You will be allocated to a branch closest to your work address unless otherwise requested (please contact Fitwise Management Ltd to discuss if necessary)

Your New Member pack will include details of your allocated region and contact details of branch officials, etc.

Branch

East Anglia	Scotland
London	South West
Mersey	Wales
North West	West Midlands
Northern Ireland	Yorkshire

ACA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION DETAILS
(please print all details clearly in BLOCK CAPITALS)

Title: **First Name:** **Surname:**
(Mr/Mrs/Miss/Dr/Ms)

Professional Body registration No:

Work address (please complete full postal address):-

Job Title :

Name of Employer :

Department:

Hospital/Company:

Address:

.....

Town or City:

County:

Country:

Post Code:

Tel: (+ STD Code) **Ext/Bleep:**

Fax: (+STD Code)

e-mail address

Chosen Branch :
(see 1st page for options)

Do you wish your details to be published in the ACA Directory: Yes No

INFORMATION ON SPECIALITIES WITHIN THE ACA

In order to provide demographic information on the range of membership, the ACA would be interested in knowing the **general category** of member from the list below.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Visitor | <input type="checkbox"/> Occupational Therapist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doctor | <input type="checkbox"/> Physiotherapist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nurse | <input type="checkbox"/> School Nurse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Midwife | <input type="checkbox"/> Education Professional |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social Worker | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care Assistant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) | |

Qualifications:

How did you hear about ACA?

The address to which all ACA mailing should be sent:-
(If different from above)

Mailing address:

.....

.....

Post Code:

ACA occasionally carry out mailings for companies. ACA arranges the mailings on their behalf and it does not release details of the membership to companies concerned. It will not carry out a mailing for an unknown company. However, this is a useful source of income for the Association and has the benefit of keeping the membership informed of commercial developments. Please indicate if you do not wish to receive company updates of this nature in the future.

(Please tick one box as appropriate)

I do wish to receive company mail

I do not wish to receive company mailings

In terms of recent legislation relating to Data Protection and the receipt of unsolicited emails you are entitled to receive emails for products and services only if you specifically give consent. In the same way as ACA currently carry out mailings for companies without releasing members details to the companies concerned and raise income for the association in doing this, there is an opportunity for ACA to offer the same service to companies by providing similar information electronically. However, there is a legal requirement for you to give consent for this to happen. Please complete the following declaration according to your preference.

*(Please tick **one** box as appropriate)*

I consent to the receipt of emails for products or services:

I do not consent to the receipt of emails for products or services:

Signed by: _____

Print name: _____

Date: _____

Special Interest Groups

The ACA has a number of special interest groups available to members at no extra charge.

Please indicate if you wish to receive information on any of these. If requested, an information sheet will be included in your New Member pack:

I am interested in the following (tick as appropriate):

Pelvic Floor Special Interest Group

Bowel Interest Group

Benefits to Members cont

Directory of Members

This comprehensive directory of ACA members is an invaluable resource and an individual copy is sent to all members.

ACA Branches

The ACA regional Branches provide local support for members and are run by a volunteer Committee of elected local members. Details of the ACA branches and Branch Organisers are provided on joining.

The ***ACA Branch Handbook has been produced*** to provide guidance and information for branch committee members.

Study Days are held regularly in the Branches. Education is seen as the single most important requirement of members. Branch activity programmes are varied, covering a mixture of clinical and professional issues combined with social and networking activities and opportunities to share experience.

Website

The members section of the website provides information on latest research, regional updates, corporate links, a members discussion forum and much more. A personal password is issued to all new members to allow full access to the website. www.aca.uk.com

Publications (the following are provided to all members)

ACA Notes on Good Practice®

The Notes have been published in partnership with Teleflex. This is a body of work compiled by the ACA, created from experience and research and peer reviewed by its members. It is an immeasurable work of reference for healthcare professionals. Individual sections are annually reviewed and updated as necessary.

Steps 2 Success® (electronic version only)

This 'tool kit' for multi-professional continence care was developed in collaboration with the ACA and Boehringer Ingelheim / Eli Lilly & Co and was launched in 2004. It provides invaluable information & tips for establishing new continence services and enhancing existing ones. It is now available on the member's section of the association website.

ACA Continence Resource Pack for Care Homes®

The Resource Pack is produced in partnership with another of our corporate members, PaperPak UK, and aims to heighten the awareness of all healthcare professionals working within the independent sector of the importance of continence promotion and of the early identification, assessment, treatment and management of incontinence.