



ABCD (Diabetes Care) Ltd Membership Policy

The purpose of this document is to set out the criteria, benefits and relevant terms and conditions of ABCD membership.

The Association of British Clinical Diabetologists is the national organisation of Consultant Physicians in Britain who specialise in Diabetes Mellitus. Most are also Acute General Physicians, and many are also Specialists in Endocrinology and Lipid Metabolism.

Membership Criteria

Membership of ABCD is open to Consultant Diabetologists in the United Kingdom and all SpRs training in Diabetes and Endocrinology in the United Kingdom.

ABCD General Membership is charged at £75.00 per annum with reduced fees available for eligible SpRs (£25.00 per annum) and retired consultants (£40.00 per annum).

Non-UK residents are **not** eligible to be members of ABCD but may contact ABCD to access resources and subscribe to non-member updates.

Benefits of Membership

- Membership of the UK's leading specialist association of clinical and academic diabetologists
- Representing Diabetologists in national health decision making by influencing health policy and improving clinical practice at the highest levels in the organisation of the national health service
- Supporting the growth of local secondary care diabetes services to provide leadership and guidance for local diabetes communities
- Representing diabetes specialists who also practice endocrinology, general medicine and acute medicine and understanding the resulting multiple pressures particularly in the current financial climate
- Meetings designed for busy clinicians with discounted delegate rates for members which offset the annual subscription
- Hard copy subscription to The British Journal of Diabetes
- Quarterly Chairman's ebulletin / newsletter providing current updates
- Free on-line access to Practical Diabetes.
- Provision of high- quality training for Specialist Registrars in diabetes and endocrinology
- Opportunities to contribute to and learn from national audits of new therapies.
- Opportunities to set up and run your own nationwide audits or surveys through our Sharepoint website.
- Access to Member only resources on the ABCD website.
- Networking with fellow diabetologists who face the same pressures throughout the UK at the 3 meetings each year
- Supporting the development of newly appointed consultants through a national mentoring programme
- Speciality support for revalidation
- Opportunity to apply for ABCD Research Grants.



- Support for members' applications under the Department of Health's Clinical Excellence Awards (ACCEA)
- Access to contact details of other ABCD members via the online directory
- Providing specific SpR benefits
- Meetings and travel grants of up to £1000 for attendance at international meetings
- Discounted rates for diabetes trainees to attend ABCD meetings
- Annual SpR meetings
- Participation in the ABCD Lifelong Learning Programme.

Applying for Membership

- Members can join ABCD [online](#) using the webform on the ABCD website.
- By providing personal information in the application process, the applicant certifies that this information is true and correct. Please view ABCD's [Privacy Policy](#) for details on how personal information is stored and used by the organisation.
- A person shall be deemed to have become a member on payment of the annual subscription.
- Membership is not transferable and is valid for 12 months from the date of joining.

Payment terms

- All members must pay on application.
- Subscriptions are paid on a 12-monthly basis, via a choice of payment methods online. Including, via PayPal; on-line bank payment / invoice (BACs); or cheque.
- Reminders that an individual's subscription is due are sent out automatically one month in advance of the renewal date.
- Members are invited to renew their membership one month, two weeks and 1 day prior to the renewal date. Reminder emails will also provide a link to a survey asking members who choose not to renew to give feedback on their membership experience.
- If a member fails to renew their membership, they will receive a grace period of one month to make payment.
- If no payment is received within one month of membership expiry, the individual will be informed that their membership has expired.
- Once an SPR has completed their training, they are no longer eligible to receive the reduced membership fee and therefore, once subscription renewal is due, should renew their membership at the General Membership rate.
- Where an individual has ceased to be a member because of failure to pay the appropriate subscription, they will be reinstated as a member on payment of the subscription.

Refunds

Only in extreme situations are refunds of subscription paid, i.e.:

- Duplication of subscriptions for the same membership scheme, e.g., where employer purchases memberships for employees and the individual has already paid their subscription in which case the refund is usually made to the individual.
- Other situations, e.g., long-term sickness absence may be considered at the discretion of the ABCD trustees.



- Refunds will not be given to individuals who are offered complimentary memberships or awarded honorary memberships part way through a 12-month subscription. Such individuals will qualify for complimentary or honorary membership from the date of their next renewal.

Members' responsibilities:

Members are expected to:

- Ensure prompt payment of membership fees.
- Keep personal information provided to ABCD up to date.
- Act as ambassadors and advocates of ABCD.
- Conduct themselves with integrity and professionalism in a manner, which does not damage or undermine the reputation ABCD (Diabetes Care) Ltd using inclusive and courteous behaviour.

Votes of members

- Only full members of ABCD have voting rights.
- Every full member shall have one vote.
- No full member shall be entitled to vote at any general meeting unless the membership fee and/ or any other payments due have been paid.

Termination of Membership:

- If the subscription of any member shall not have been paid within one month of the due date, then the trustees, may, at their discretion, declare the person has ceased to be a member of ABCD and all benefits of membership shall cease.
- Trustees, at their discretion may decide to terminate a person's membership at any time should they:
 - Act in a way that does not align with ABCD's values.
 - Act in a way that could cause harm to ABCD or its members.

If a member's account is terminated by the trustees, then that person must not re apply for membership.

Agreed by ABCD Directors: 8th September 2021

Approved by ABCD Directors: 8th September 2021

Date of next review by ABCD Directors: September 2024