

C ontinence R esource S ervice

A service provided by
National Association For Continence

National Association For Continence (NAFC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of people with incontinence. NAFC is a leading source of education, advocacy, and support to the public and to the health profession about the causes, prevention, diagnosis, treatments, and management alternatives for incontinence.

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Promoting Your Practice . . . by Promoting Patient Satisfaction

More than 20,000 Americans and Canadians received written or telephone assistance from NAFC in the past year. Currently, NAFC receives several thousand letters and calls each month. One of the most frequently asked questions is:

"How can I find a specialist in my area?"

NAFC's Continence Resource Service (CRS) was initiated to enable us to answer that question — to link consumers with health care providers in their locale who will be sensitive to their concerns and who provide all therapeutic modalities for the treatment of incontinence.

According to our latest membership survey, most people with voiding dysfunction have not been satisfied with the fragmented or intermittent medical care they have received. At a workshop sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, Neil Resnick, MD of Harvard University's Brigham and Women's Hospital stated:

"We estimate that at least 25 million Americans are significantly affected by chronic urinary incontinence. No other medical problem in the United States directly affects so many Americans and receives so little attention from the medical community, government, news media, and medical research funding agencies."

We need your help to change this sad statistic.

NAFC invites you to apply for affiliation with our Continence Resource Service. When NAFC members write or call for this service, NAFC sends them an alphabetical listing of the CRS Affiliates in their area. This information is also available on the NAFC web site (www.nafc.org) as a free online search engine.

CRS is comprised of health care providers who have particular interest and expertise in the diagnosis and treatment of incontinence, offering patients various behavioral, pharmacologic, surgical, and management options. Because we want to provide consumers with names of only the most qualified professionals, all CRS applicants must be current professional members of NAFC and meet the following screening criteria developed by NAFC's Board of Directors:

CRS – Eligibility Requirements

A health professional who wishes to be included in NAFC's CRS must meet specific criteria. In addition to enrolling as a professional member of NAFC, there must be a proven interest in diagnosing and treating patients with urinary incontinence. To demonstrate this interest, as well as an acceptable level of competence, the following criteria are required:

(Check those that apply and enclose your current CV with application.)

I. Medical doctors and allied health professionals who hold a current membership in:

- American Urogynecologic Society
- International Continence Society
- Urodynamics Society

We understand that these are not accrediting organizations, but membership certainly implies an interest in the diagnosis and treatment of incontinence.

OR...

Medical doctors who have completed a fellowship in:

- Female Urology
- Neurourology
- Urogynecology
- Gastroenterology

For health care professionals who do not qualify for inclusion in CRS under either of the previous criteria, the following must be met in order to qualify:

II. Medical Doctors Only:

(Enclose a current CV with this application.)

Completion of residency and Board Certification or Board eligibility in:

- Colorectal Surgery Geriatrics
- Family Practice Gynecology
- Gastroenterology Urology

AND any TWO of the following...

- Faculty member in a Board Certified program or curricula in which continence curriculum is taught by the individual applying to NAFC's CRS;
- Minimum of two papers published in peer review literature on the subject of bladder or bowel dysfunction;
- A minimum of 10 hours CME in incontinence within the past two calendar years. Broader course curriculum may be demonstrated but at least 10 hours of the course must be specifically related to incontinence; or

Current membership in:

- American Urological Association
- American Association of Genito-Urinary Surgeons
- American Association of Gynecological Laparoscopists
- American Gastroenterologic Association
- American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons
- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

III. Allied Health Professionals:

(Enclose a current CV with this application.)

Completion of an accredited professional program and state licensure to practice the specialty, e.g., RN, PT, etc.;

AND any THREE of the following...

- Minimum of 10 hours of training in a CEU-approved program in incontinence within the past two calendar years. Broader course curriculum may be demonstrated but at least 10 hours of the course must be specifically related to incontinence;
- Minimum of 8 hours of on-site training with an allied health professional who is a CRS Affiliate, providing a subsequently written letter of recommendation from the Affiliate;
- Membership in one of the following professional organizations: *(Darken circles that apply.)*
 - American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Women's Health Division, or
 - Association of Rehabilitation Nurses (ARN)
 - Association of Women's Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN)
 - National Alliance of Nurse Practitioners (NANP)
 - National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Reproductive Health (NANPRH)
 - Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates (SUNA)
 - Wound Ostomy Continence Nurses Society (WOCNS)
- Minimum of two papers published in peer review literature on the subject of bladder or bowel dysfunction; or
- Letter of recommendation from a physician who is an Affiliate of NAFC's CRS.

CRS – Affiliate Profile

Please describe the treatments for incontinence that you provide. It is very important that we have this information in our records to serve our members.

Diagnostic Services:

- Anal manometry
- Bladder ultrasound
- Cath post-void residual
- Cystometrogram
- Other:*
- Cystoscopy
- Multi-channel urodynamics
- Pelvic neurophysiologic testing
- Videourodynamics

Surgical Treatment:

- Abdominal sacral colpopexy
- Abdominal hysterectomy
- Anal sphincterplasty
- Artificial sphincter
- Injection of bulking agents
- Laparoscopic bladder neck suspensions
- Interstim® sacral nerve implantation
- Vaginal hysterectomy
- Other:*
- Needle bladder neck suspensions
- Retropubic bladder neck suspensions
- Vaginal reconstructive procedures
- Sacro-spinous ligament fixation
- Sub-urethral sling procedures
- TVT (or like) procedures
- Radio frequency SUI treatment

Behavioral Therapy:

- Dietary instruction
- Bladder training
- Vaginal cones
- Biofeedback
- Electrical stimulation
- Peripheral nerve stimulation for UI
- Other:*
- ExMI technology (NeoControl™)
- Pelvic muscle exercise instruction
- Voiding diary instructions
- Prompted voiding (instruction to caregivers)
- Intermittent catheterization

Other Treatment/Management Techniques:

- Pharmaceutical prescriptions
- Skin care product recommendations
- Female pelvic organ support devices
- Female urethral devices
- Indwelling catheterization
- Absorbent products and devices
- Other:*

Enclose your current CV with this application.

NAME

OFFICE PRACTICE NAME (IF DIFFERENT)

STREET ADDRESS

STREET ADDRESS, CONTINUED

CITY

STATE

ZIP

TELEPHONE # (WITH AREA CODE)

FAX # (WITH AREA CODE)

EMAIL ADDRESS

WEB ADDRESS

OFFICE CONTACT