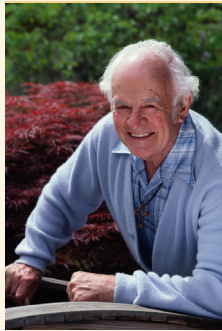




“My husband and I looked to NAFC to find a team that would oversee every aspect of his treatment.”

“I wanted to see a doctor I knew had successfully treated a lot of men just like me.”



“I have my life back because I found a surgeon with the training and experience to guide my decisions.”

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National Association For Continence

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Promoting Quality Continence Care Through Education, Collaboration, and Advocacy

NAFC NATIONAL CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE: Continence Care



“How do I choose the right doctor?”

Linking consumers with proven continence care experts



National Association For Continence

Purpose

The NAFC National Centers of Excellence: Continence Care program was established to offer consumers seeking solutions to their bladder or bowel control problems and related pelvic floor dysfunction a reliable, trustworthy means of finding an expert. The Center of Excellence (COE) designation is based on evidence of training, clinical experience, resources, and patient satisfaction statistics that meet established standards.

Process

- A hospital facility together with two or more individual providers complete the online application.
- Patient satisfaction data collection is initiated and applications are reviewed for Interim Status in a blind process by a Review Committee comprised of providers with Fully Approved COE status.
- Upon achieving Interim Status, a site visit will be made to the facility to verify application information, and individual provider applicants will be personally interviewed by the clinical site investigator.
- Applicants will be granted Fully Approved Status by the Review Committee or required to submit additional information within two years.
- NAFC will make public announcement of Fully Approved Status and include the COE in a searchable online database for consumers.
- Fully Approved Status is valid for three years before renewal is required with updated information.

While NAFC is a not-for-profit organization, there are application fees to cover program expenses.

Objective

The program's objective is to provide consumers information on facilities and practitioners who deliver the best outcomes and highest patient satisfaction.

Goal

The goal is to establish a bar for aspiration and achievement by others in the field to continuously improve the quality of care delivered to patients, while reducing the costs and hazards of errors by providers, as well as frustration and confusion on the patient's part.

It all started when someone cared enough to help others search for answers to their bladder and bowel control problems...



"I saw three different doctors before I finally got treatment."

Twenty-five years later the National Association For Continence established a national Centers of Excellence designation that continues its tradition as a patient advocate with quality still at the center of its focus...with the overarching goal of bringing better outcomes and greater satisfaction to more people seeking solutions and remedies for their symptoms.



Why NAFC?

NAFC is a not-for-profit, consumer-driven resource center for individuals with symptoms of bladder and bowel control problems, voiding dysfunction including retention, nocturia and bedwetting, and related pelvic floor disorders including prolapse. NAFC has 25 years of experience serving as a public health educator and patient advocate. It encompasses dysfunctions of urologic, gynecologic and colorectal components, and its membership and Board composition includes representation of all pelvic floor subspecialties. NAFC is uniquely qualified because there is no other organization that represents the interests of the multiple disciplines involved in the care of patients with pelvic floor dysfunction while representing the broad interests of the public.

Mission of NAFC

The National Association For Continence is a 501(c)(3) corporation whose mission is threefold:

- 1) to educate the public about the causes, diagnosis categories, treatment options, and management alternatives for bladder and bowel control problems, nocturnal enuresis, voiding dysfunction, and related pelvic floor disorders;
- 2) to network with other organizations and agencies to elevate visibility and priority given to these health concerns; and
- 3) to advocate on behalf of consumers who suffer from symptoms as a result of disease or other illness, obstetrical, surgical or other trauma, or deterioration due to the aging process itself.

NAFC is broadly funded by consumers, healthcare professionals, and industry. It is the world's largest and most prolific consumer advocacy organization devoted exclusively to this field.