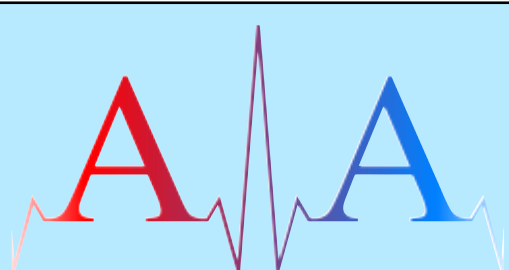


I enclose:				
• A copy of our constitution or other governing document (if applicable)	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The subscription gives you full membership including regular updates, newsletters and information leaflets. Upon receipt of this application form I understand a complimentary copy of "Managing Cardiac Rhythm Disorders in the UK - The Need for Change" will be sent to me. 	Income up to £50,000	£30	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Income up to £100,000	£50	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Income of £100-250,000	£100	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Income of £250-500,000	£250	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Income of £500,000 -1 million	£375	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Income of 1-2 million	£500	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Income of £2-£5 million	£750	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Income over £5 million	£1000	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Please tick box to confirm: <input type="checkbox"/>				
Please enclose cheque payable to: Arrhythmia Alliance				
<p>The Arrhythmia Alliance asks its members to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the aims of the Alliance Distribute the publications of the Alliance Participate in surveys run by the Alliance Provide information on request about themselves and the condition Respond to consultations Respect confidentiality Support Alliance events Consider sympathetically requests for volunteers to undertake work for the Alliance Encourage their own members to support regional alliances Update their details as and when they change Link the Alliance website with their own Provide information about their awareness days/weeks, and anything else that they would like publicised through our website Mandate those attending Alliance events to speak or decide on their behalf Agree to the Alliance processing data about their staff contacts under the Data Protection Act 1998. 				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We accept and will strive to fulfil these membership requirements I consent to the Arrhythmia Alliance holding and processing data about me and my organisation. I accept the aims of the Arrhythmia Alliance I am authorised to apply on behalf of my organisation 				
Signature	Print name			
Date				

Please cut along line

The Heart
Rhythm
Charity



Arrhythmia Alliance

Promoting better understanding, diagnosis, treatment
and quality of life for individuals with cardiac arrhythmias

Arrhythmia Alliance (A-A) is a coalition of charities, professional medical groups and industry allies. The groups will work together under the Arrhythmia Alliance umbrella to promote timely and effective diagnosis and treatment of arrhythmias.

What is an arrhythmia?

An arrhythmia is an abnormality of the heartbeat, The heart could beat too fast, too slow, or beat irregularly. An arrhythmia occurs when the normal electrical rhythm of the heart is disturbed. Normally, tiny currents activate the top of the heart (atrium), just before the bottom of the heart, the ventricles, which are the muscular chambers that pump blood around the body.

- Fast arrhythmias are referred to as *tachyarrhythmias*.
- When the heart beats too slowly due to a failure of electrical activation, it is referred to as a *bradyarrhythmia*.
- Most arrhythmias arising from the top of the heart (*supraventricular*), are troublesome but not always life-threatening.
- Many arrhythmias arising from the bottom of the heart, (*ventricles*) are life-threatening.

Arrhythmias are very common, and consistently appear in the top 10 reasons for emergency admission to hospital.

A-A AIMS:

- ★ To Raise Awareness of Cardiac Arrhythmias
- ★ To improve Diagnosis of Cardiac Arrhythmias
- ★ To improve Treatment of Cardiac Arrhythmias
- ★ To improve Quality of Life for people living with Cardiac Arrhythmias

Who are A-A?

President of Members Committee
Professor John Camm

Arrhythmia Alliance Founder Trustees are:

- **Trudie Lobban** is founder of the STARS charity, (www.stars.org.uk).
- **Dr Adam Fitzpatrick** is Chairman of the STARS Medical Advisory Committee and nominated representative of UKICES, (www.ukices.org).
- **Dr Derek Connelly** is the nominated representative of BPEG.
- **PATRONS: W B Beaumont OBE; Prof. H J J Wellens**

Arrhythmia Alliance

P O Box 3697
Stratford Upon Avon
Warwickshire CV37 8YL
01789 450787

www.arrhythmiaalliance.org.uk

info@arrhythmiaalliance.org.uk

A-A OBJECTIVES:

1. To bring together member charities, healthcare professionals, commissioners and their allies.
2. To advance the concerns and needs of all our members.
3. To develop the knowledge and skills base of medical professionals and professions allied to medicine.
4. To cultivate multi-centre and multi-disciplinary research.
5. To prevent sudden cardiac death in vulnerable groups .
6. To promote the value and need for cardiac pacing, implantable defibrillators, catheter ablation, and other treatments for arrhythmias.
7. To prevent misdiagnosis in patients suffering from arrhythmia and transient loss of consciousness (T-LOC)
8. To assess and quantify unmet need amongst those affected by arrhythmia.
9. To promote centres of excellence for arrhythmia diagnosis and treatment.
10. To secure better care, leading to a better quality of life, for individuals with arrhythmia

Managing Cardiac Rhythm Disorders in the UK – The Need for Change

On registering as a member of the **Arrhythmia Alliance**, you will receive a **complimentary copy** of our consultation document for the new chapter on arrhythmias in the NSF, for your interest and information. At present, this is a draft that is intended to provoke comment and contribution from the UK electrophysiology community and others in the NHS involved in commissioning care. We are all aware that patients with arrhythmias have not received a framework for their care in the way that patients with coronary artery disease and heart failure have over the last 5 years. Now there is the opportunity to change this in the Revision of the NSF for Heart Disease to be announced on 6th March 2005.

Voluntary contributions have been made by specialists in the care of patients with arrhythmias, nurses, patients themselves, and their advocates and supporters. The enthusiasm and determination have been impressive since the writing process only started on 7 June 2004, but the document was completed and distributed in time for the DoH consultation deadline of 4th August 2004. Consultants from a number of specialties including cardiology, neurology, Accident & Emergency and General Practice also spoke and facilitated at the **A-A** Conference on 1st June 2004 at the Royal College of Physicians, in a spirit of shared collaboration and enthusiasm. Over 140 delegates attended the event, which gave patients pride-of-place in proceedings. The final document itself is very patient orientated.

There is a great deal of work to do. 500,000 patients suffer with atrial fibrillation. UK pacemaker

implantation rates are far behind Western Europe (only 350 per million population compared to 550 per million in Western Europe) and 28,000 more patients need to be treated each year in the UK to catch up. Many more patients may require implantable defibrillators according to accumulating evidence. In the UK 125,000 patients suffer from supraventricular tachycardia and most could be completely cured. Blackouts are a major drain on healthcare resources, and cause 1% of all hospital admissions, with over 120,000 patients in the UK misdiagnosed with epilepsy. Between 75,000 and 100,000 patients suffer a sudden cardiac arrest in the UK each year and many of these deaths are premature and with correct diagnosis and treatment, could be avoided. Over 400 children and young adults suffer sudden unexplained death each year; sudden death in young people occurs approximately 15 times more frequently when there is a (probably wrong) diagnosis of epilepsy.

All these patients need expert care, and in the UK they are often not getting it. We hope the NSF will start to put this right by focussing attention on these patients, drawing resources toward them, (and in many cases simply using them more effectively), and establishing an initiative to grow the arrhythmia workforce.

The **Arrhythmia Alliance** will promote better understanding, diagnosis, treatment and quality of life for individuals suffering with cardiac arrhythmias.

To receive your complimentary copy please complete and return the registration form together with the registration fee.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Registration Form

Please use **BLOCK LETTERS** or type

Please return to **Trudie Lobban**

Arrhythmia Alliance, PO Box 3697

Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 8YL

info@arrhythmiaalliance.org.uk

www.arrhythmiaalliance.org.uk



Name of organisation or individual member	
Charity No (<i>if applicable</i>)	
Contact name & position in organisation	
Address (inc post code)	
E-mail Address	
Website Address	www.
Tel Number	
Organisation aims and activities	
Details of disorders covered, including symptoms, ages affected, causes, any treatments	
No. of members	
No. of staff (FT equivalents) Approximate is acceptable.	
Latest audited income (<i>if applicable</i>)	£ (Year 200)
What we can bring to The Arrhythmia Alliance	

Please cut along line