



April 2023

Ostomy Association of the Houston Area

AFFILIATED SUPPORT GROUP

"We help ourselves by helping others to help themselves."

We are a volunteer-based organization dedicated to providing education, information, support and advocacy for people who have had or will have intestinal or urinary diversions.

P.O. Box 25164
Houston, TX 77265-5164
www.ostomyhouston.org

We're Here for Colorectal Cancer Survivors

By Cheryl Ory, UOAA President, Courtesy of UOAA March Newsletter

President Biden has proclaimed March 2023 National [Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month](#). The American Cancer Society says that colorectal cancer is the third leading cause of cancer related deaths in both men and women. On another note, the death rate has been dropping for several decades. One reason is that treatments have improved. Another reason is that colorectal polyps are now being found more after screening and removed before they can turn into a cancer.



In 2008 I was diagnosed with Stage 3b colorectal cancer. I was told the cancer had been developing for at least 10 years or more, most likely when I was in my early 30's. There was a polyp, if it had been removed at an earlier date the cancer would not have developed. After radiation, chemo, surgery, and more chemo I am now a colorectal cancer survivor with a permanent colostomy, an ostomy that has saved mine and others lives from not only cancer, but other debilitating diseases.

I'm happy that UOAA is standing alongside partner organizations like Fight Colorectal Cancer to push lawmakers into giving

(Continued on page 5)

We are a health support group, a non-profit, tax-exempt, organization of volunteers whose purpose is to provide mutual aid and education to persons who have ostomies and to their families. We are a Texas non-profit corporation. Membership fees and donations are tax deductible.

Patient Visiting and Support Services

Doctors and WOC Nurses, please note:

Upon request from a doctor, nurse, or social worker, a specially trained visitor will be asked to contact an ostomy patient by phone or visit them in person before and/or after surgery. The visitor will be matched as nearly as possible according to sex, age, and type of ostomy. The visitor does not give medical advice, and there is no charge for this service. Please contact our Visitation Coordinator, Marian Newman at 713-392-5768, or newmarian@gmail.com.

United Ostomy Associations of America

8th NATIONAL CONFERENCE



Embracing New Frontiers

August 10-12, 2023

You're invited to "Discover Your People"



Royal Sonesta Houston Galleria
2222 West Loop South, Houston, TX 77027
Hotel Reservations: 855-463-3091
Room Block "2023 UOAA National Conference"

- Ask Questions of Top Ostomy Experts
- Inspirational Speakers
- Free Stoma Clinic
- Product Exhibit Hall with 35+ Vendors
- Surgery Specific Meet & Greets
- Young Adult and Pediatric Workshops
- Fun Social Events and Activities
- Dedicated Sessions for Caregivers
- IBD & Crohn's Disease Program

National Sponsors to date:



Visit www.ostomy.org/2023Conference for continued updates. Registration opened 1/1/23

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News from the OAHA Board

United Ostomy Associations of America will host their 8th National Conference August 10-12, 2023 in Houston and registration is now open. To learn more, go to:

www.ostomy.org/2023Conference

UOAA Conference Early Bird Rates for Registration for the UOAA National Conference ends on May 31, 2023: Individual - \$195; Young Adult (18-25) - \$150; Children (5 – 17) - \$25; One Day Rate - \$140

Regular rate after May 31, 2023 goes up by \$15 (excluding children).

Volunteer Opportunities for the UOAA's 8th National Conference: Show your Houston hospitality and volunteer at the UOAA's National Conference. The OAHA will be submitting a list of volunteer names and contact information to the UOAA. If you would like to add your name and volunteer, send an email with your contact information to kathleen.duplessis@outlook.com (volunteer opportunities include: helping out at the free ostomy clinic, registration, packet stuffing, and more).

The Southern Texas Chapter of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation is hosting their annual **Take Steps toward cures for IBD** on April 29, 2023 at Nottingham Park located behind Spring Forest Middle School, 14205 Kimberley Lane, Houston, TX 77079.

<https://www.crohnscolitisfoundation.org/chapters/southtexas>

Kathleen Duplessis, President and The OAHA Board

Central Group News

The Central Support Group of the OAHA met on Monday, March 20th at the Tracy Gee Community Center and we were so pleased to hear from Abby Chapin, research engineer with the Rice360 Institute for Global Health Technologies fellowship program. Rice360 is a non-profit at Rice University and they work with institutions and hospitals in many countries to address global health needs through engineering solutions. In their fellowship program, Abby is the lead for the Colostomates project and she is responsible for continuing to develop a low-cost colostomy system to manufacturing and distribution through usability testing, functional testing, and clinical trials. The OAHA has been following this project and offering our suggestions for a few years now. We were all so impressed to see the new and improved colostomy system and our seasoned ostomates offered their ideas, comments and suggestions. What a fun evening!! We can't wait to see the final product. If you want to learn more about Abby's colostomy project, here is the link:

[Fellowship Spotlight: Abby Chapin, Colostomates Project.](#)

Also at the meeting, we were wowed by Denise Parsons who brought in the most beautiful quilt and she told us she wants to donate her handmade quilt to the OAHA to use as a fundraiser for the our wound and ostomy nurse annual scholarship! Please look in this newsletter for the picture of this beautiful quilt—the picture below shows Denise and Ama Acheampong holding up this beauty. Ama is our current ostomy nurse scholarship recipient! We can't decide if we should sell raffle tickets or have a silent auction and if you have experience with silent auctions/raffles, please let me or one of our board members know! And, for those of you who don't know about our scholarship, the OAHA supports an annual \$2,000 scholarship each year which is matched by our friends at The Spring Branch Medical Supply store (a total of \$4,000) for continuing their nursing studies in the wound and ostomy field. One requirement is the recipient must work in the greater Houston area. We are going into our 4th year of a 5-year pledge. Thank you, Denise for this beauty—you are amazing!



Ama Acheampong and Denise Parsons with quilt created and donated by Denise.

ConvaTec's Regional Manager, Rory Smith will be presenting at our next Central Support Group meeting. Rory just returned from ConvaTec's national sales meeting in Ft. Lauderdale and he is looking forward to presenting a lot of new products from ConvaTec. This meeting will be worth your while even if you don't use ConvaTec so please join us on Monday, April 17 at 7:00 p.m.

We hope to see you there!

Kathleen Duplessis, President, OAHA,
Kathleen.duplessis@outlook.com or 713-299-3180



The **United Ostomy Associations of America** (UOAA) can be contacted at:
www.ostomy.org or 800-826-0826

We encourage you to bring your spouse or significant other and members of your immediate family to our meetings.

Baytown Group News

Baytown support group did not meet in March because of Spring Break.

Upcoming meetings:

- April 10th: ConvaTec presentation with Ray Nevels
- May 8th: TBD
- June 12th: Hollister presentation with Roxanne Warren

Kind Regards,

Cindy Barefield, RN, CWOCN

cbarefield@houstonmethodist.org

281-428-3033

Northwest Group News

The Northwest group had a great meeting with Roxanne Warren from Hollister sharing newest items that were of great interest to the group. Next month we will have Safe and Simple provide a presentation. Reminder that these meetings are hybrid. We are meeting at HCA Northwest Hospital on 1960, and meeting via Zoom for those who cannot attend live.

Mary Kinsey, BSN, RN, WOC, WCC, OMS

mkinsey815@gmail.com

936-443-2565

North Houston Group News

The North Houston support group is meeting IN PERSON at Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital every 2nd Tuesday from 12-1 p.m., classroom D in the south tower. Contact Mary Kinsey at 936-443-2565 or Ericka Spence at 806-661-8182. Next meeting will be April 11.

Mary Kinsey, BSN, RN, WOC, WCC, OMS

mkinsey815@gmail.com

936-443-2565



The donation closet is up and running for anyone needing supplies or wishing to donate.

HOPE—TCH Woodlands, Pediatric Group News

The HOPE group will meet on April 16 (the third Sunday of the month, due to Easter on 4/9), from 2-3 pm. The Zoom link for future meetings will be in your email newsletter.

MaryAnne Lewis, maryannelewis@hotmail.com or 281-948-1490

Sugar Land Group News

Joan Burnham RN ONN-CG OCN presented “Don’t Hurt Me – Skin and Adhesives” with a PowerPoint presentation.

Injury to skin is also known as MARS (Medical Adhesive Related Skin Injury). MARS is defined as skin lesions that remain for 50 minutes or more after adhesive is removed. There are different types of adhesives on tapes, bandages, dressings, EKG leads, and ostomy devices.

The different ways skin can be hurt by adhesives include:

- Mechanical injury includes skin stripping (taking off the first layer of skin), skin blisters, and skin tears.
- Irritant contact dermatitis occurs when chemical or physical irritants touch the skin. Skin injury is restricted to the area of contact with the offending substance. Symptoms include burning, stinging, redness and swelling. In severe cases, symptoms can worsen to vesicles (multiple small blisters), blisters, erosion (loss of the top layer of skin), and skin death—or necrosis.
- Allergic contact dermatitis is an inflammatory process following exposure to an allergen. Severity is related to length of exposure and can occur anywhere from minutes to days after exposure. Area affected can include the contact point and surrounding skin. Symptoms are intense itching, redness, swelling, papules (small solid bumps), vesicles, blisters, erosion, weepy and then crusting. Most allergic contact dermatitis is gone within 1-2 weeks.
- Maceration is the result of extended exposure to moisture under a dressing. Skin appears to be white or gray and is wrinkled like being in water too long. Skin becomes easy to remove and can expose the underlying skin layers.
- Folliculitis is the result of trapped bacteria in the base of a hair follicle. Symptoms include redness, papules (fluid filled bumps), and pustules (Pus filled bumps. Typically seen with shaving hair but can also occur if skin is removed by adhesive.

Risk factors for having adhesive related skin injuries include:

- age (older than 65)
- female (thinning of skin after menopause)
- presence of other skin conditions (eczema, psoriasis)
- repeated injury (tape coming on and off to same area of skin)
- hospital stay (ICU – 25% risk)
- ostomy (more than a 77% risk)

Prevention is best!

Routine skin care is done with bathing a least every other day. Use a gentle soap or body wash, recommendations include Dove™, Ivory™ or Caress™. Shaving cream (Barbasol™) also works as a gentle cleanser. Be gentle to your skin – use caution with loofahs or body scrubbers (Buf-Puf™). Rinse well to remove any soap

(Continued on page 4)

Group News

Sugar Land Group News *(continued from page 3)*

residue. Use moisturizers or emollients that are labeled to protect, increase, or renew skin function. Ceramides in the ingredient list can also be helpful. If labeled hypoallergenic, the product may have a smaller ingredient list. 'Slugging' (putting petroleum jelly on your skin at bedtime) can be helpful. Be careful as the petroleum jelly can damage your bedding, and night clothes or pajamas.

Use a barrier product, like adhesive removers, when taking off tape or adhesive. Multiple brands are available without a prescription.

Use a skin protectant to areas with high moisture exposure – like under a diaper. Products are Desitin™, A&D Ointment™, or a barrier cream. Do not use barrier cream under an ostomy bag.

Use a barrier film under all adhesives, including an ostomy. The barrier film is a substance that covers the skin. This film prevents the adhesive from coming in direct contact with the skin. The adhesive should only take the film with it on removal – not your skin. When you are ready to remove the adhesive, you can use adhesive remover. Some people may need multiple layers of barrier film. There are multiple brands available, and no prescription is needed.

Barrier sheets are hydrocolloidal sheets that can be placed in an area where tape put on and removed frequently. Barrier sheets are

placed on the skin and then the dressing is taped to and taken off the barrier sheet. The barrier sheet can be left in place multiple days and should be removed with an adhesive remover.

Education is the last item and includes being your own advocate. Tell your healthcare team to use a barrier film or adhesive remover when dealing with adhesive on your skin. Ask for a wound ostomy nurse if you are in the hospital. Another option is to bring your own adhesive remover and skin barrier to be used. Barrier film is effective and does not interfere with the adhesive device function, think EKG leads. Barrier film can even be used with sterile dressings if the swab application is used as the swab is sterile.

Open forum followed with multiple items discussed. Members asked for the contact information for Edgemark and Byram to be shared along with the slides of the program.

Our next meeting will be April 20th at 6:00 PM through Zoom on exercise from Sarah Arriaga, BSN, RN, WOCN.

Joan Burnham, MSN, RN, ONN-CG, OCN, MEDSURG-BC
Oncology Nurse Navigator
281-274-0188

jburnham@houstonmethodist.org

Donating Ostomy Supplies?

Here are a few options if you would like to donate ostomy supplies. These non-profit organizations are all volunteer run.

Local Community Ostomy Donation Closet 1740 W. 27th St., Suite 234, Houston, Texas, 77008. Open by appointment for donation drop off or pickup Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Please call or text Mary Kinsey at 832-581-5874 to arrange access.

Medical Bridges: they collect medical supplies locally. On their website, click the Get Involved link and then the donate supplies link. It provides you with various options. <https://www.medicalbridges.org/>

Friends of Ostomates USA: provides ostomy supplies and educational resources at no cost to ostomates in need around the world. Their warehouse is located in Louisville, KY. A fun fact: Our very own Cindy Barefield, BSN, RN-BC, CWOCN is President of Friends of Ostomates! Please go to their website for details: <https://www.fowusa.org/>

Kindred Box: is dedicated to improving the lives of people with ostomies and they distribute donated ostomy supplies to support the care of uninsured and underinsured ostomates in America struggling with financial hardship. Go to <https://www.kindredbox.org/> and find out what ostomy products they can accept and to learn about their Postage Program which helps with your shipping expenses. The Kindred Box is located in McKinney, Texas.

More options can be found on the UOAA's website: <https://www.ostomy.org/donate-ostomy-supplies/>

We're Here for Colorectal Cancer Survivors *(Continued from page 1)*

attention to the alarming rise in young people with colorectal cancer.

With younger people being at risk and diagnosed, The U.S. Preventative Services Task Force lowered the recommended screening age to 45 in 2021. One in five colorectal cancer patients is between the ages of 20-54. Talk to your doctor about options for colorectal cancer screening. As the Colon Cancer Coalition states with earlier screening and detection, "Colorectal Cancer can be Preventable, Treatable, Beatable."

If you are a person still at risk, like those with IBD, let me urge you to get screened. Screening can result in any colorectal cancers being found earlier when they are easier to treat.

Here at United Ostomy Associations of America (UOAA) we have a long legacy of supporting the survivors of cancer and many other conditions so that they can have best quality of life possible. If your cancer requires a life-saving ostomy surgery remember—you are not alone. 725,000–1 million people in the U.S. of all ages and backgrounds live with an ostomy.

Every individual person's disease treatment is unique but ostomy surgery for colorectal cancer may mean a temporary ileostomy (from the small intestine) or colostomy (large intestine). This may be required to give a portion of the bowel a chance to rest and heal. When healing has occurred, the colostomy can often be reversed and normal bowel function restored. It's important to know that not everyone with an ostomy will be a candidate for a reversal operation. A permanent colostomy may be required when a disease affects the end part of the colon or rectum.

We have new Living with a Colostomy guide and ileostomy guide to help you learn as much as possible before or after you have this life changing surgery.

It's especially important to connect with one of hundreds of UOAA Affiliated Ostomy Support Groups in the U.S. before, or shortly after, your surgery. Peer support and preparation can put you on the path to success in what may be a challenging time both emotionally and physically. Ask if the hospital has a certified ostomy nurse and insist on having your stoma placement marked before surgery. These and other self-advocacy tools are paramount and outlined in our Ostomy Patient Bill of Rights.

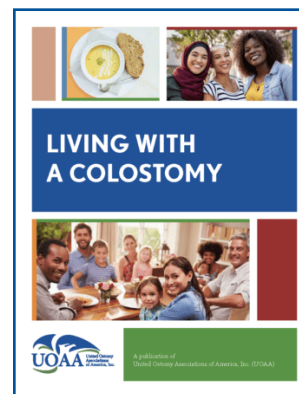
You may feel too overwhelmed as you are discharged at the hospital to fully understand ostomy pouching systems and accessories and lifestyle considerations. If you have a medical question contact your doctor or nurse, but if you have a quality of life question—UOAA resources here at ostomy.org and peers at UOAA Affiliated Support Groups likely have the answers.

It's important to learn the facts about living with an ostomy. After the healing period outlined by your surgeon you can swim, bathe, be intimate, travel, and embrace a new normal life. After

some trial and error, you may also eat most of the foods you have been able to eat in the past. Education is key to battling misinformation.

Unfortunately misinformation and stigmas surrounding both ostomy surgery and colorectal cancer affect the number of people getting screened or getting the medical treatment they need. Let's work together to educate, advocate and support survivors.

Cheryl Ory is a colorectal cancer survivor who received a permanent colostomy in 2008. Cheryl is a Registered Nurse who has had a passion for volunteering with the ostomy community ever since and first joined UOAA's Board of Directors in 2015. She now holds the position of President.



Colostomy Guide

[Download PDF of the Colostomy Guide](#)

Did you know the Ostomy Association of the Houston Area supports a scholarship to Houston area nurses interested in wound, ostomy and continence nursing?

The OAHA along with RJ Poonawala at Spring Branch Medical Supply (one of our friends and a long-time advertiser in our newsletters) contribute matching funds totaling \$4,000 to assist a nurse pursuing the WOC specialty. The scholarship is administered through the south central region of the WOCN Society. Some of the qualifying criteria for the scholarship includes the applicant must live in the Greater Houston Area (100-mile radius) and the course of study must include Ostomy care. A big thank you to all who have helped by paying their membership dues (if you haven't, it's not too late) and those who have donated to the OAHA—your support helps us make a difference for the ostomy community in the greater Houston area! Contact any OAHA Board Member for more information.

Kara O'Neil's Story

By Kara O'Neil, Courtesy of UOAA March Newsletter

If you asked me 20 years ago when I was in college if I thought I could be a strong ostomate, I would have just stared at you in shock. Strength and I were not the best of friends. In fact, it was one of the things I often questioned about myself. I had no idea what was something worth crying about.

That all changed three years ago when I was put to the test when I went from sudden rectal bleeding as a result of ulcerative colitis, to having to remove my colon in a matter of four months. During the next three years, I had four more operations from trying the j-pouch and failing, to finally getting a permanent ostomy just this past December.



Somewhere along the way, I found my strength. I dealt with major emotional and physical changes faster than I could even process. I had to adapt to a whole new way of life and a whole new way of looking at myself.

Somewhere along the way, I found my strength.

These three years have been incredibly hard. They have tested me in every way, broken me down to smithereens of myself, and caused me to question everything. The true strength that just suddenly overcomes you when you least expect it is something you don't really understand until you are there and have no other choice. Life after that is forever changed.

Along the way, I started to feel strong. I was amazed by what both my body and my mind could accept and turn into a positive. I started to really take care of my physical health, and in the three years that I have been the sickest in my life, I became the most physically strong I have ever been by participating religiously in barre class. This physical strength, along with the help of the ostomy community, is what helped me to then discover my mental strength.

I literally stared death in the eye and won. It is hard to even write that today.

Feeling very alone, I stumbled across some ostomy bloggers one night while scouring the internet. Reading their patient stories blew my mind at the time, because I didn't comprehend how they could just accept living with an ostomy. But all that changed and I began to understand when I was so sick that it was no longer a choice if I wanted to keep being a mommy. The decision to have a permanent ileostomy was the best choice I ever made.

This physical strength, along with the help of the ostomy community, is what helped me to then discover my mental strength.

I just had what I hope to be my final surgery and got my permanent ostomy on December 1, 2020. Since then, I have made some promises to myself. I want to be my absolute best version of myself now that I am able to really live again. I want to help as many people with IBD and facing the possibility of an ostomy as I can. I want them to see what I have come to see, that they too can use such an incredibly difficult period in their life to find their strength and their best version of themselves.

"God said to me, I am going to show you pain. And then you are going to help other people who are in pain because you understand it" (Lady Gaga).



UOAA Ostomy Nurse Scholarship Application is Now Open!

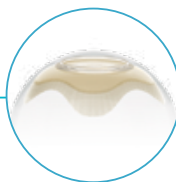
To help increase access to Certified Ostomy Care Nurses (COCN®) in the United States, UOAA sponsors a scholarship to encourage more nurses to pursue a career in this specialty. This year they've expanded their program to include those pursuing Ostomy Advanced Practice Certification (COCN-AP®). The application period is now open and will close on June 30th. To learn more about the program, [click here](#).

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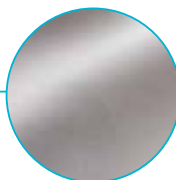
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Central Group

Date: Monday, April 17, 2023
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: **In-Person Meeting:** Tracy Gee Community Center, 3599 Westcenter Drive, Houston, Texas 77042
Program: Rory Smith, Convatec Regional manager
Contact: Denise Parsons, 713-824-8841
rockynme2@gmail.com

Baytown Group

Date: Monday, April 10, 2023
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: **In Person Meeting- Community Resource Credit Union (CRCU)** Community room. Avoid the front of the hospital (Garth entrance). The CRCU Meeting Room is located just inside the door of Plaza 2 on the back side of Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital. Park behind the hospital (exit off of Baker Rd.)
Program: ConvaTec presentation with Ray Nevels
Contact: Cindy Barefield, CWOCN, 281-428-3033

Northwest Group

Date: Wednesday, April 19, 2023
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: **Virtual Webex Meeting and In-Person** (Information is provided in the email of your April OAHA Newsletter.)
In-person: HCA Healthcare Northwest
 710 Cypress Creek Parkway, Houston, TX 77090
Program: TBD
Contact: Mary Kinsey, BSN, RN, WOC, WCC, OMS
 832-581-5874 mkinsey815@gmail.com

North Houston Group

Date: Tuesday, April 11, 2023
Time: 12:00 p.m.
Place: **In-Person** (Information is provided in the email of your April OAHA Newsletter.)
Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital, Classroom D in the South Tower
 1635 N. Loop W, Houston, TX 77008
Program: TBD
Contact: Mary Kinsey, BSN, RN, WOC, WCC, OMS
 832-581-5874 mkinsey815@gmail.com

Sugar Land Group

Date: Thursday, April 20, 2023
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: **Virtual Webex Meeting** (Information is provided in your April OAHA newsletter.)
Program: "Exercise" with speaker Sarah Arriaga, BSN, RN, WOC Nurse
Contact: Joan Burnham, MSN, RN, ONN-CG, OCN, MEDSURG-BC. Oncology Nurse Navigator
 281-274-0188 jburnham@houstonmethodist.org

Woodlands Pediatric Group

Date: April 16, 2023 (moved due to Easter on 4/9)
Time: Sunday at 2:00 p.m.
Place: **Virtual Meeting** (Information for accessing meetings is provided in the email of your April OAHA Newsletter.)
Contact: MaryAnne Lewis, 281-948-1490
maryannelewis@hotmail.com

J-Pouch

For J Pouch questions, attend any of our group meetings, or call or text Ron Meisinger at 281-491-8220

Opportunities and Announcements

Use Those Shopping Cards

Kroger (LB326) and Randalls (3698) return a percentage of your purchases to the Ostomy Association on a quarterly basis.

Anniversary Gift

As you celebrate the anniversary of your ostomy surgery each year, consider making a monetary gift to the Ostomy Association. Checks should be made payable to the ***Ostomy Association of the Houston Area*** and sent to the Treasurer at the address shown below.

Memorial Fund

Donations can be made to our Memorial Fund to memorialize or honor individuals. Checks should be made payable to the ***Ostomy Association of the Houston Area*** and sent to the address below. When sending a donation, be sure to include the name of the person being honored so that acknowledgement can be sent.

Moving? Changing Your Email Address?

Please make sure we have your current contact information so we can reach you by email, U.S. mail, or phone. Send updates to Lorette Bauarschi at lorette@bauarschilaw.com.

For Anniversary Gifts, Memorial Donations, Mailing Changes, or Sponsorships, please send all correspondence to:

Ostomy Association of the Houston Area
 Attn: Mike McGinity, Treasurer
 P. O. Box 25164
 Houston, TX 77265-5164

(When sending a donation, please include the name of the person being honored so that appropriate acknowledgement can be sent.)

WOC Nurse Directory

Cindy Barefield, RN, CWOCN (281) 428-3033
Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital
cbarefield@houstonmethodist.org

Pat Thompson RN, BSN, CWON (281) 397-2799
Patricia.Thompson6@hcahealthcare.com



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Osto Group www.ostogroup.org

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Newsletter Advertising: Please contact the President or Treasurer for advertising opportunities.

Membership Application

Membership in the Ostomy Association of the Houston Area requires one easy payment. Please complete the following form and mail as directed with payment as shown. Dues of **\$25.00 per year** are payable to:

Ostomy Association of the Houston Area, Attention: Treasurer
P. O. Box 25164, Houston, TX 77265-5164

Date: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ E-mail: **(required)** _____

Surgery Date: _____ Birth Date: _____ Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Other _____

Reason for surgery ☐ Crohn's ☐ Ulcerative Colitis ☐ Cancer ☐ Birth Defects ☐ Other _____

In addition to English, I also speak the following language(s). Foreign language spoken: _____

Why do we ask this? We have a patient visiting program and we are occasionally contacted by ostomates who are not fluent in English and we look to our membership to assist with communication.

Procedure or Relationship:

To help us complete our records, please answer the following.

Check all that apply.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colostomy | <input type="checkbox"/> Continent Ileostomy | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent of Child with procedure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ileostomy | <input type="checkbox"/> Continent Urostomy | <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/Family Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Urinary Diversion | <input type="checkbox"/> Pull-Through | <input type="checkbox"/> Physician |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> J-Pouch | <input type="checkbox"/> Nurse |

*Membership benefits include:
Monthly Support/Information
Meetings, Social Events,
Monthly Newsletter*

☐ I would like to attend meetings with the **(please circle one)**:

Central Group Baytown Group Northwest Group Sugar Land Group Woodlands Pediatric Group

☐ I would like to become a member but cannot pay dues at this time. *(This will be kept confidential.)*

I learned about the Ostomy Association from

☐ WOC Nurse ☐ Physician ☐ Newsletter ☐ Surgical Shop ☐ Website ☐ Other: _____

I am interested in volunteering. ☐ Yes ☐ No

I have enclosed an additional \$_____ as a donation to support the association's mission of helping ostomates.



LeeAnne, CeraPlus™ Product User

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