

AFFILIATED SUPPORT GROUP

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

Ostomy Association of the Houston Area

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

Where Should I Purchase My Ostomy Products?

Courtesy of UOAA, June 2024

Quick Reference Guide for Ordering Supplies and Insurance Reimbursement

- * Ostomy supplies are special products and may not be available at your local drugstore.
- * Contact your insurance provider to understand what your insurance plan covers and pays for ostomy supplies, and where you can purchase and order supplies (usually through a supplier or retailer).
- * Connect with a trusted retail supplier for help understanding your insurance allowables. With your permission, they can even contact your insurance on your behalf.
- * Do you need help finding a supplier for your ostomy products? Call the me+ team to learn more about your options (1-800-422-8811).

Still not sure which ostomy products to buy?

With me+[™], you never have to figure it out alone.

Navigating and maximizing your health insurance, finding a retailer, and feeling confident in your ostomy supply purchases may feel overwhelming. The me+ support team is available so that you don't have to figure it out alone.

You have the right to choose the Retail Supplier that best meets **YOUR** needs.

Convatec works with a group of Preferred Retail Suppliers to provide you with excellent customer service and dependable supply delivery. Our Preferred Retail Suppliers will:

- * Help you manage product orders in line with your insurance
- * Facilitate your insurance billing process to ensure you get the proper reimbursement for Medicare, Medicaid or private insurance
- * Help you select the right products to suit your personal needs
- * Ship your products straight to your home in discreet packaging
- * Send you timely reorder reminders

Protect your privacy in accordance with U.S. HIPAA guidelines

To learn more about Preferred Retail Suppliers that work with your insurance, contact our me+ support team at 1-800-422-8811, cic@convatec.com or fill out this form.

(Continued on page 3)

Special thanks to Mike McGinity who set up our table and represented OAHA at National Cancer Survivors Day—June 2, 2024, Sponsored by Houston Methodist Hospital



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.

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Central Group

Date: No July meeting, next meeting September 16, 2024

Time: 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Place: In-Person Meeting: Tracy Gee Community Center, 3599

Westcenter Drive, Houston, Texas 77042

Program: Convatec Presentation

Contact: Denise Parsons, 713-824-8841 rockynme2@gmail.com

Baytown Group

Date: No meeting in July

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: In Person Meeting: Houston Methodist Baytown

Hospital, Baytown, 77521

Contact: Cindy Barefield, BSN, RN-BC, CWOCN,

281-428-3033 cbarefield@houstonmethodist.org

Northwest Group

Date: Wednesday, July 17, 2024

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: In-Person Meeting:

Montgomery County South Regional Library,

2101 Lake Robbins Dr., The Woodlands, TX, 77380

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

936-443-2565 mkinsey815@gmail.com

North Houston Group

Date: Tuesday, July 9, 2024

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Place: In-Person Meeting

Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital, Medical Plaza 2, Suite 234 (second entrance) 1740 W. 27th St., Houston, TX 77008

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Contact: Ericka Spence 346-263-9658
ericka.spence@memorialhermann.org

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

936-443-2565 mkinsey815@gmail.com

Sugar Land Group

Date: Thursday, July 18, 2024

Time: 6:00–7:00 p.m. **Place:** Virtual Meeting

Program: Presentation "Traveling with an Ostomy" by Cindy

Barefield, BSN, RN-BC, CWOCN

Contact: Jennifer Cerda, MSN, RN, OCN, Nurse Navigator,

346-901-2012 jcerda@houston methodist.org

Woodlands Pediatric Group

Date: Saturday, July 6, 2024

Time: 2:00 p.m.
Place: Virtual Meeting

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

936-443-2565 mkinsey815@gmail.com
Contact Mary Kinsey for online meeting link.

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.)

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

Sugar Land Group July Meeting Summary

Presentation given by Sam Bennet, the Coloplast Territory Manager in Houston. He went over the Coloplast Sensura Mio products. Coloplast products have an elastic adhesive and BodyFit Technology designed to fit individual body shapes. All SenSura Mio barriers feature BodyFit Technology. BodyFit Technology secures the right fit by providing a protection and skin care layer. It adheres securely to the body to protect the skin and provides a flexible fit during movement. SenSura Mio offers many different solutions driven by different patient needs. Offers optimal discretion; stays hidden even under white and has a wide outlet for fast, easy emptying. Has a filter that is a full-circle pre-filter that protects against clogging and is proven to reduce ballooning. Discussed pouching systems (1-piece and 2-piece) and types of adhesive barriers. A new product will be released on 7/1; SenSura Mio in black. Discussed the Coloplast Care Program, which helps patients move from confusion to confidence by offering quality of life guidance, connecting patients with advisors, and continued support with support group webinars. Following enrollment, patients will be sent a customized Care Kit to their home that includes an educational booklet, customized samples, and a travel bag. MyOstomyLife by Coloplast Care is an app that provides access to support and education to help manage life with an ostomy. Open discussion with the ostomy support group included tips on the use of skin barriers, wax rings, etc.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, July 18, 2024 from 6:00 –7:00 p.m., with a presentation from Cindy Barefield, BSN, RN-BC, CWOCN on "Traveling with an Ostomy."

Where Should I Purchase My Ostomy Products

(continued from page 1)

My Ostomy Journey App

Fit is so important, especially when it comes to your body and the ostomy products you're using.

We know that there is no one-size-fits-all product that works for everybody or every stoma. Download the My Ostomy Journey app to discover and sample products to fit your body by answering just a few simple questions. It's free to download and works on either a phone or tablet. Download now to get started today!

The reimbursement information provided by Convatec is intended to provide general information relevant to coding and reimbursement of Convatec's products only. Coverage and payment policies for the same insurer can vary from one region to another and may change from time to time because of ongoing changes in government and insurance industry rules and regulations. Therefore, please confirm HCPCS Codes with your local DME-MAC, private insurer, or Medicaid agency before processing claims. Convatec does not guarantee coverage or payment of its products listed herein.

Editor's note: This article is from Convatec. Sponsor support along with donations help to maintain the UOAA website and the free trusted resources of UOAA, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.



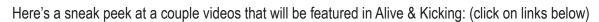
The United Ostomy Associations of America (UOAA) can be contacted at: www.ostomy.org or 800-826-0826

Embracing Ostomy Life Programs Launched in 2024

Embracing Ostomy Life (<u>www.embracingostomylife.org</u>) has been Rolf Benirschke's dream since he had his ostomy surgery in 1979 which almost ended his NFL career. After securing their 501c3 status in the spring, their team has been hard at work laying the groundwork for the two programs expected to launch in early 2024:

Alive & Kicking—a 30-day ostomy recovery program delivered via email with tips on adjusting to a new life that features videos and information from physicians, WOCNs, physical therapists, nutritionists, mental health professionals and "veteran" ostomates.

Team HOPE (Helping **O**stomates through **P**eer **E**ncouragement) will match volunteers who have completed the UOAA "Ostomy Friends" training course with new ostomates based on factors like gender, type of ostomy, lifestyle, age and other relevant factors.



Bitter or Better - Rolf Benirschke

Your ostomy does not dictate your future – Jearlean Taylor





embracing ostomy life

ARE YOU A CANCER PATIENT OR



PARTICIPATE IN A NEW STUDY TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE WORKPLACE EXPERIENCES OF CANCER PATIENTS

Eligibility Requirements

- Diagnosed and treated with cancer sometime in adult life
- Worked for pay at least part-time during treatment
- Married/cohabitating during cancer treatment
- Spouse/partner was also employed during this time

Details

- Eligible participants will be asked to complete 2 online surveys (<20 minutes/survey)
- Spouses/partners will also be asked to complete 2 online surveys (<10 minutes/survey)
- Participants will be compensated

Click on pink buttons above and below to get more info.

Sign Up

Full details and sign-ups can be found here: https://baylor.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV a hirdAAy9JtNot8

For questions, please contact sara_perry@baylor.edu







SenSura® Mio Convex Flip has a star shaped barrier to provide a secure fit over curved areas, even when bending and stretching.



A curved star-shaped barrier

has petals that hug the body with less creasing or folding.

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Neutral-colored, discreet **quiet** pouch

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Ostomy Care / Continence Care / Wound & Skin Care / Interventional Urology



Coloplast Corp. Minneapolis, MN 55411 / 1-800-533-0464

PM-11979 07.20

OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP 2024

Join us for a forum providing support, encouragement, education and guidance to patients with ostomies (colostomy, ileostomy, urostomy).

Support group meetings will feature:

- Expert presentations from health care professionals
- Opportunities to share stories and discuss life after ostomy procedures

Who: Any patient with an ostomy, including cancer patients

When: 6-7 p.m. Jan. 18 April 18 July 18 Oct. 17

Feb. 15 May 15 Aug. 15 Nov. 21 March 21 June 20 Sept. 19 Dec. 19

Where: This support group will be conducted virtually.

You will receive the meeting link after registering.

RSVP: Please email Jennifer Cerda, MSN, RN, OCN, at

jcerda@houstonmethodist.org or call 346.901.2012.

Please note, email is not a secure means to communicate personal identification, i.e. Social Security number, date of birth, financial information, etc.







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

Kinsey Ostomy Care info@kinseyostomycare.com



https://www.facebook.com/ OstomyHouston/



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8700 Long Point Road Houston, TX 77055

(713) 465-2200 Fax (713) 461-5806

Virtual Ostomy Clinic

Ostomies change bodies and lives. People living with an ostomy need personalized suggestions and ongoing support from medical experts who really understand ostomies. In the healthcare system today, too many ostomates do not have the regular access to a certified ostomy nurse they need for a successful health journey. This is why UOAA has partnered with The Wound Company—to bring certified ostomy nurses to ostomates and their caregivers across the United States virtually. For a one-time direct payment of \$125, The Wound Company's certified ostomy nurses provide people with personalized support via Zoom, text SMS and email for 30 days—in the privacy of their own home.

Get Started Here! (More info on page 8)







As many as 75% of ostomates report skin complications.1 Convatec is your solution with a complete portfolio of ostomy products designed to help keep the skin around your stoma healthy.

- Leading Adhesives Technology including Durahesive® and Stomahesive®
- Convatec Moldable Technology™ is proven to prevent and improve complications of the skin around your stoma²
- Essential Accessories, including ESENTA™ skin care line and lubricating deodorant and eakin Cohesive® seals





Our me+[™] program provides ostomy education, resources and support to help you keep your skin healthy.

or contact our me+™ team at 1-800-422-8811

Ostomy Outpatient Clinics

Memorial Hermann – Greater Heights BY APPOINTMENT Call 713-867-2432

Memorial Hermann – Northeast FRIDAY AFTERNOONS, BY APPOINTMENT

Call 281-540-6322 or fax a referral to 281-540-7107.

Memorial Hermann Rehabiliation Hospital – Katy BY APPOINTMENT

Contact Kim Dewitt, Clinic Manager kim.dewitt@memorialhermann.org 281-579-5541

Memorial Hermann – The Woodlands BY APPOINTMENT Contact Stephanie Wilkins 281-602-4830 or fax 281-602-4849



GET THE LATEST INFORMATION AND INSPIRATION AT THE UOAA WEBSITE

https://www.ostomy.org/news/

OBTAIN NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP WITH UOAA https://www.ostomy.org/membership/

Virtual Ostomy Clinic

(Continued from page 7)

Whether it's a colostomy, ileostomy or urostomy, a new ostomate learning to care for their stoma or an existing ostomate grappling with new complications, the journey can be overwhelming. UOAA's Virtual Ostomy Clinic provided by The Wound Company offers support through telehealth visits and ongoing touchpoints via texting and emailing to make sure ostomates have the right supplies for their unique situation and thoroughly understand how to care for their ostomy.

- * Assess a person's ostomy in one comprehensive telehealth assessment by Zoom in the beginning of the 30-day period
- * Assist ostomates and their caregivers in choosing supplies and recommend pouching options that fit the person's lifestyle and health goals
- * Help ostomates and their caregivers prevent and manage skin irritation, rashes, and other complications around the ostomate's stoma.
- * Answer ostomy questions from ostomates over email or SMS for the 30-day program.
- * Provide personalized education, care, and support throughout the program, including tips on diet, nutrition, hydration and intimacy.
- * Follow up with one additional comprehensive telehealth assessment during the program when necessary.
- * Provide a summary of the assessment and recommendations for ongoing care after each telehealth assessment.

Learn more about UOAA's Virtual Ostomy Clinic

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 Ericka Spence 346-263-9658, or contact Mary Kinsey 936-443-2565 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 at 4653 Nall Rd., Suite F12, Farmers Branch, TX 75244.

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

UOAA Membership Resources



Join UOAA National Memberships

www.ostomy.org/membership



As a National Member of UOAA, you are helping us to achieve our goal to support, educate, empower and advocate for people who have or will have ostomy or continent diversion surgery. By joining UOAA, you will also help increase the influence and voice the ostomy community has on a national level.

You can join annually as a National Individual Member or as a National Medical Professional Member.

As a UOAA member you will receive a packet of our educational resources, national membership and stoma rose pins, be the first to receive any new publications, and can be nominated to be elected to UOAA's Board of Directors. You will also receive a special promotion code to subscribe to *The Phoenix* magazine at a discounted rate.

For more information and annual membership fee visit www.ostomy.org/membership/ and help UOAA support the next generation of ostomates.

Get Ostomy Answers! The Phoenix is the leading national magazine for ostomates, their families and caregivers. Subscriptions directly fund the nonprofit United Ostomy Assoc. of America – the only national organization providing vital information, resources, support and advocacy for ostomates. Subscribe or Renew Today! www.phoenixuoaa.org or call 800-750-9311 ☐ Start or ☐ Renew ☐ One-year: \$19.95 ☐ Please send me FREE product samples, special offers and information.** Name Address Apt/Suite State Payable to: The Phoenix magazine, P.O. 15755, North Hollywood, CA 91615 Based on \$12.95 cover price. Canadian subscriptions: \$29.95 one-year. U.S. funds only.



Disclaimer: The information contained within this newsletter is presented expressly for informational purposes only and may not be applicable to everyone. It should not be substituted for professional medical care or attention by a qualified practitioner. Always check with your doctor if you have any questions or concerns about your condition.

Osto-EZ-Ven

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- Pinchable Glides for easier opening
- Convenient and Simple
- Provides Comfort, Relief, & Confidence
- Attaches to Any Pouch



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Contact KEM for more information on the $Osto\text{-}EZ\text{-}Vent^{\circledR}$ including Where to Buy.

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Providing Ostomy Products to the Uninsured.

All you pay is shipping and handling. 877-678-6690

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

Membership Application Membership in the Ostomy Assodirected with payment as shown.	Dues of \$25.00 per year are	Houston Area, Attention: Treasurer			
Name:		Phone:			
Street Address:					
City:	_State:ZIP:	E-mail: (required)			
Surgery Date:	Birth Date:	Sex: 🗖 Ma	le 🗆 Female 🗅 Other		
Reason for surgery Crohn's Ulcerative Colitis Cancer Birth Defects Other In additional 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 record Colostomy Ileostomy Urinary Diversion Other:	☐ Continent Ileostomy ☐ Continent Urostomy ☐ Pull-Through	☐ Parent of Child with procedur ☐ Spouse/Family Member ☐ Physician	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 North Houston Group Sugar Land Group Woodlands Pediatric Group					
I learned about the Ostomy Ass ☐ WOC Nurse ☐ Physici	sociation from an D Newsletter D Surgic	cal 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.					



CeraPlus Soft Convex Ostomy Products — Protection Where it Matters Most

Peristomal skin deserves advanced protection. CeraPlus™ Products* provide a secure and comfortable fit to protect against leakage and help keep healthy skin healthy. Infused with ceramide, the body's own defense against damage and dryness, CeraPlus™ Products protect skin from Day 1.

Request your trial sample at: Hollister.com/en/ostomycare

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*Contains the Remois Technology of Alcare Co., Ltd.









Ostomy Care

Healthy skin. Positive outcomes.