

www.heartrhythmalliance.org

## What does it mean to be affiliated to Arrhythmia Alliance?

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# What does it mean to be affiliated to Arrhythmia Alliance?

There are two million people affected by heart rhythm disorders in the UK alone. A fundamental role of Arrhythmia Alliance is to inform, support and guide arrhythmia patients through their care pathway; from diagnosis, to treatment and on-going management.





### **Benefits of a Support Group**

Support groups provide invaluable service to arrhythmia patients. Meetings represent a forum for patients, their carers, friends and families to gain information, emotional support, share common experiences and learn more about their condition.





### Who Should Run the Group?

The most successful groups are run in partnership between patient/carers and healthcare professionals. This ensures that correct medical information, support and advice are given at meetings.





## How Do We Find a Medical Professional Leader?

- Arrhythmia Alliance has thousands of contacts in all areas of the UK.
- Initially, we contact the Arrhythmia Team in the hospital close to you and recruit a medical professional who is keen to support this initiative.
- We then facilitate the formation of the group, linking patient/carer to medical professional.



#### **How Do We Recruit Members?**

SUPPORT GROUPS

Arrhythmia Alliance can help by advertising your local meeting on their website, in the monthly e-bulletins and target local GP practices and Health Centres.



Your medial professional leader will also be able to highlight the meetings to all their patients, both new and existing.



# What Should the Aims of the Group Be?

This should be determined at the launch meeting and members should be invited to have a say about what they would like from the group and what the group meetings should offer.





### What Should We Do at Meetings?

The answer to this will lie in the desires and aspirations of the group. It is helpful to have a mixture of meetings, some educational and some social to ensure that the group appeals to the widest number of patients/carers.





# How Frequent Should the Meetings Be?

Again, this decision will be made by the needs of the group members and will be dependent on the structure of the group.



Some groups have a more formal structure and meet at regulated intervals whereas some more informal groups meet on a more frequent, social basis.



# How Arrhythmia Alliance Can Support Your Patient Group

- ✓ Accredited information booklets, fully endorsed by the Department of Health
- ✓ Involvement in the charity's active projects and campaigns
- ✓ Helpline support and advice
- ✓ Free hosting and design of group website
- ✓ Advertisement of group events & meetings on the website and monthly e-News
- ✓ And much, much more...



#### **Get in touch**



If you would be interested in setting up a support group in your area, please contact Julie Fear on 01789 867 533 or julie@heartrhythmalliance.org for more information.



### www.heartrhythmalliance.org











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Providing education and training to promote diversity and improved technology for all involved in the treatment of arrhythmia patients.

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