

FROM THE FOUNDATION

International OCD Foundation Launches New Website

Packed with expanded and updated information about OCD and OC Related Disorders, the new IOCDF website (www.ocfoundation.org) launched in late November 2009 to rave reviews. More than 1 million online users visit our site each year and many of them have praised the more intuitive site navigation and the breadth of new, easy-to-understand content in the "About OCD" section.

The new "About OCD" section (www.ocfoundation.org/whatisocd.aspx) includes detailed information about the diagnosis and management of OCD and OC Related Disorders in both children and adults, ideas for parents and family members, and summaries of the newest treatment strategies such as glutamate and deep brain stimulation. For those newly diagnosed with OCD, a Glossary of Terms (www.ocfoundation.org/glossary.aspx) is also available to help people understand the terms used throughout the site. More experienced visitors will also benefit from a new "Expert Opinions" (www.ocfoundation.org/expert.aspx) page, which will feature articles written by experienced OCD professionals.

Our new Annual Conference page (www.ocfoundation.org/conference.aspx) lists information about the conference's program, provides information and tips about conference travel, offers links to area attractions, and even points visitors to an online bulletin board dedicated to discussing the conference.

During October 11-17, 2010, the website will also advertise our OCD Awareness Week efforts. Visitors will be able to learn more about ways to spread the word about OCD in their community during Awareness Week, or at any time, by visiting www.ocfoundation.org/Week.aspx.

Other highlights include a redesigned "Research Participants Sought" page (www.ocfoundation.org/participants.aspx) that organizes ongoing studies by location, a newsroom section (www.ocfoundation.org/newsroom.aspx) that lists OCD-related newspaper, radio, television, and internet appearances, and a redesigned "Online Support" page (www.ocfoundation.org/yahoo.aspx) that lists over three dozen online support groups.

In the upcoming year, we will be adding many more pages to the website, as well as a revamped treatment provider, support group, and intensive treatment program search tool. This new tool will allow users to view much more detailed information about providers in their area and will even allow users to search by any landmark recognized by Google Maps. Need to find a provider near Times Square? Our search engine will be able to help.

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Other planned improvements include an expanded hoarding section, the return of our "Ask the Experts" section, and a free archive of past newsletters.

You can also keep track of website and IOCDF updates as they happen by visiting our "What's New?" blog. Check it out today by visiting www.ocfoundation.org/whatsnew.aspx.

What do you think about our new site? We welcome your feedback! If you have a suggestion for a new feature or an improvement you'd like to see on our website, please email us at info@ocfoundation.org.

Thank you to all of our website contributors!

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IOCDF Support Group Database under Construction

If you have visited the IOCDF's new website recently, you might have noticed that our support group database is currently unavailable. Over the next couple of months we will be updating every support group listing in our online database in order to ensure that we are providing the most accurate contact information for OCD groups that meet across the country. We appreciate your patience as we perform this much-needed database renovation.

If you currently lead or belong to an OCD support group and would like to have a listing for your group included in our new database, please email rcyr@ocfoundation.org with the following information:

- Contact person for group
- Email
- Meeting location
- Fee (if applicable)
- Group open to (Adults, Teens, and/or Children w/ OCD; Parents of children with OCD; Family Members/Friends of people with OCD, etc.)
- Phone
- Website
- Meeting days and times
- Group type (OCA, Professionally led, Mutual support, etc.)
- Additional info

Thank you for your help!

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The International OCD Foundation (IOCDF) is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to educate the public and professionals about OCD in order to raise awareness and improve the quality of treatment provided; support research into the causes of, and effective treatments for, OCD and related disorders; improve access to resources for those with OCD and their families; and advocate and lobby for the OCD community.

DISCLAIMER:

IOCDF does not endorse any of the medications, treatments, or products reported in this newsletter. This information is intended only to keep you informed. We strongly advise that you check any medications, products or treatments mentioned with a licensed treatment provider.