



# About A-T in adults

An introduction to ataxia-telangiectasia  
and the work of the A-T Society





## What is A-T?\*

**A-T is a degenerative condition, which causes increasingly severe disability and a reduced life expectancy. Currently there is no cure and only limited treatment options.**

People with A-T will have problems with their balance and coordination and as their condition deteriorates most will need to use a wheelchair. The condition also affects the immune system, resulting in a much higher risk of cancer and often leading to lung infections. Fatigue (being constantly tired) can make even small movements difficult while slurred speech can make it hard to be understood (although there are no learning difficulties).

A-T is usually diagnosed during childhood. However some people are not diagnosed until later in life. This is usually because these people have a variant form of A-T, where symptoms may appear later, develop more slowly and/or be less severe. This form of A-T is rarer and there is much that we still don't know about it.

\*A-T stands for Ataxia-Telangiectasia, but, because the name is rather difficult to remember (Telangiectasia is pronounced tell-ange-ek-tasia), we usually just say A-T.



## How does A-T affect lives?

The impact of A-T on individuals and families is devastating. One in 200 people unknowingly carries the A-T gene, and in almost every case the diagnosis will come out of the blue. As people move through life their condition will deteriorate and they will need more medical care, as well as extra support from their families. Young adults may also become more isolated as their peers go off into the world and they are left behind. Depression and social isolation is common. Independent living may only be possible with lots of support.

## About the A-T Society

The A-T Society is a small charity with limited resources which benefits greatly from the work of volunteers and the support of medical professionals. While our aim is to support people in the UK, many people from other countries make use of the information we provide online. Nearly all our income is from voluntary donations and we do everything we can to get the very best value out of every pound we raise.

## I would like to make a donation

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Postcode.....

Phone number.....

I would like to make a single donation to the A-T  
Society of

£ .....

Please make cheques payable to the A-T Society

I would like to make a regular donation of

£ ..... every month to the A-T Society

To the Manager of (bank name) .....

at (address) .....

.....

Please credit the A-T Society at –

- HSBC Bank, 1 High Street, Harpenden, AL5 2RS
- Sort code 40-23-11
- Account No 41248693, with the sum of

£ .....

starting on (date) .....

and on the same date each month until further notice.\*

Account number

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Security code 

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 Expiry date 

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Signed .....

Dated 

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## Make your gift go further at no extra cost

If you pay either income or capital gains tax in the UK, we can gain an extra 25% on your donation, at no extra cost to you. All you have to do is sign the declaration below.

*giftaid it*

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the A-T Society will reclaim 28p of tax on every £1 that I gave up to 5 April 2008 and will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008.\*

Signed .....

Dated   /   /

We would like to keep your details and use them to inform you occasionally about our activities.

We will not pass your details to any other organisation. If you are happy for us to do this please tick this box

To save money, we prefer to contact people by email. Please provide your email address if you are happy for us to contact you this way.

email.....

\*Please ensure that you have filled in your address and postcode



## **Please support us**

Families living with A-T need the same quality of information and support, the same standards of care and the same investment in research as those with better known conditions – but their voices don't get heard so loudly. Your support for our work will make a real difference to their lives.

## **Please consider**

**Making a donation** – a one off donation would be great, especially if given with Gift-Aid.

**Becoming a regular donor** – setting up a standing order will help secure our work into the future.

**Taking part in or organising an event** – running, climbing a mountain, meeting up with friends, or just drinking coffee. Your passion can help us transform lives.

**Remembering us in your will** – a legacy is your gift to the future, a future free from the effects of A-T.

PLEASE  
AFFIX  
STAMP  
HERE

**The Ataxia-Telangiectasia Society**  
Rothamsted  
Harpenden  
Hertfordshire  
AL5 2JQ

## What the A-T Society does

The A-T Society exists to provide support and hope to everyone touched by A-T. It is the only organisation in the UK dedicated to doing this. Amongst our many activities we:

- ▶ promote and fund research to find treatments and a cure
- ▶ provide information, as well as practical and emotional support for everyone affected by A-T
- ▶ work to ensure people with A-T get the best possible health and social care
- ▶ raise awareness of the condition

Please use the attached form or donate online at [www.atsociety.org.uk](http://www.atsociety.org.uk)

You can also make a donation by text to **70500**:  
Text **AT GIVE 3** to give **£3**, **AT GIVE 5** to give **£5**,  
or **AT GIVE 10** to give **£10\***

For more information about any of our activities please visit our website [www.atsociety.org.uk](http://www.atsociety.org.uk)  
email [info@atsociety.org.uk](mailto:info@atsociety.org.uk)  
or call **01582 760 733**

\*100% of your donation will be received by the A-T Society. We may contact you in future about our work. If you'd rather we didn't, just add the words NO CONTACT, for example, AT GIVE 3 NO CONTACT. Texting 70500 will cost your donation plus one text message at your standard network rate. Always get the bill payer's permission. Text donation service helpline 033 066 00425.



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Rothamsted Harpenden  
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Reg. Charity No. 1105528

