

**Letter From Donna Coates
2004 Award Winner**

7th November 2005

Dear Glenys,

I am writing to express my sincere appreciation to yourself and Conni for the inception and generous sponsorship of the Conni Clinical Care Champion Award. As you know I was the recipient of the inaugural award at the 13th National CFA conference in Fremantle in November 2004.

This award not only recognises the work of clinicians at the coalface, it also provides sponsorship for the clinician to attend the International Continence Society (ICS) meeting. This award was of significant practical benefit for improving my knowledge and clinical practice as well as the opportunity to network with a number of well published leaders working in the continence arena.

I have recently returned from the ICS meeting in Montreal, after your company sponsored this visit for me for my award. There were over 3,000 delegates at the conference. I thoroughly enjoyed the pre conference workshops and the conference proceedings.

I am using some of my experiences and materials from the conference to inform colleagues in my hospital. Significantly I obtained first class material about anal muscle injury, obstetric pelvic floor muscle trauma and will present some of this work at a Grand Round in the Women's and Children's division at my hospital. I am also presenting these materials to the South Australian Nurses for Continence in December 2005.

My presence at the ICS meeting also enabled me to talk directly with Professor Christine Norton and network with other Professors of nursing. I also went to Kari Bo's pelvic floor workshop session and improved my knowledge about overactive bladder management.

Again a big thank you.

Kind regards

Donna Coates

Nurse Practitioner Continence

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