



GOLD STANDARDS FRAMEWORK

The needs of older people are at the forefront of NHS and social care transformation. Care Homes have become one of the mainstays of end of life care (EOLC) outside of hospitals and are key providers of person-centred care for a large proportion of people nearing the end of their lives, particularly the very elderly and those with severe frailty and dementia. With our ageing population, taking an earlier more proactive population based approach will enable better care for more people and fewer avoidable admissions and deaths in hospitals, allowing better integrated cross boundary care for a greater population of people.

How can GSF help?

The Gold Standards Framework (GSF) Centre is the leading provider of EOLC training for frontline health and social care staff in the UK. They are committed to enabling generalists to deliver 'gold standard' care to all people, with a particular focus on the 20% of people who die in care homes. The GSF Care Homes training began in 2004, following GSF in Primary Care mainstreamed to all GP practices from 2000, with accreditation from 2008 and now with over 3000 trained and 700 accredited homes. The GSF Accreditation process is a well validated externally approved system, co-badged by British Geriatric Society, Community Hospitals Association, Royal College of GPs, Care England and recognised by CQC and NICE.

GSF provides evidenced based service improvement programmes (quality improvement) with compliant high standards of care and ongoing support (quality assurance) and Accreditation (quality recognition) that can be used to enhance the commissioning of services for all quality outcomes.

The role of GSF since 2000 and GSFCH since 2004 in improving this care is clearly identified within The End of Life Care Strategy in 2008 'every organisation involved in providing end of life care will be expected to adopt a coordination process such as the GSF'. Thus GSF can play a key part in transforming end of life care, providing a flexible, empowering model which can be adapted to local need.

St Catherines Hospice is a Regional Training Centre for GSF Social Care Programmes in the North West Area. Our role is to deliver this care home programme to care homes within our area to help improve; quality, coordination and outcomes.

Quality - to enable you to transform the culture and quality of care within your care home, with sustainable long term improvements.

Coordination - proactive identification of patients and collaborative working with other health care professionals.

Outcomes - improving patient centred care, symptom management and anticipatory planning and management.

Successful completion of this programme leads to a well-recognised GSF Accreditation Quality Hallmark Award by CQC, NHS choices, commissioners and other indicators of quality provision.

To find out more about this successful quality improvement programme:

Contact us: education@stcatherines.co.uk

Or go to: www.goldstandardsframework.org.uk/care-homes-training-programme