



Dementia Care

'End of Life care for people with Dementia'



'Dementia is one of the greatest challenges in our society'

People with dementia are particularly vulnerable and many receive suboptimal care especially towards the end of life.

The 'Prime Minister's Challenge on Dementia' affirms the importance of everyone involved in the care of people receiving appropriate training.

"Dementia is one of the biggest challenges we face as a society and we are determined to transform the quality of dementia care for patients and their families...so we can help those living with dementia have a better quality of life." **David Cameron, Prime Minister PM Challenge in Dementia March 2012**



The aim of this new quality improvement training programme is to improve knowledge, skills and understanding in care for people with dementia nearing the end of life to enable a 'gold standard' of care. A key focus of the programme will be to enable people to live and die well at home/care home in line with a campaign to reduce avoidable hospitalisation for people with dementia, to improve assessment of pain and to enable more to have earlier advance care planning discussions.

The 4 key areas are to...

- Improve awareness of care for people with dementia, the national context and the importance of dignity and respect
- Improve understanding and assessment of symptoms especially pain, distress and symptom management
- Improve uptake of advance care planning and best interest discussions and support for carers
- Enable more to live and die at home and reducing avoidable hospitalisation

Who will find this useful?

- Anyone involved in care for people with dementia e.g. GPs, District Nurses, practice nurses and others in primary care teams
- Care home staff - nursing and residential, care assistants and others
- Hospital staff - acute and community
- Domiciliary care workers
- Volunteers, clergy and others

"End of life care is a key part of providing good quality person-centred support for people with dementia. Awareness of end of life issues, the appropriate assessment of pain, good advance care planning and allowing people to die where they wish to are all key aspects of improving the experience of a person with dementia. The Gold Standards Framework Dementia Care Training Programme is an important element of this work and will help ensure that people with dementia are given the best possible care at the end of life."

Alistair Burns, National Clinical Lead for Dementia, Department of Health



"People with dementia have a right to good quality end of life care and cognitive impairment should not be used as a reason for unnecessary hospitalisation, or to deny people the same services that are available to every other citizen."

Martin Green, Chief Executive, ECCA; DH Independent Sector Dementia Champion

"Every organisation involved in providing end of life care will be expected to adopt a coordination process such as the GSF"

Department of Health End of Life Care Strategy '08

The National Gold Standards Framework Centre enabling a 'gold standard' of care for all people nearing the end of life

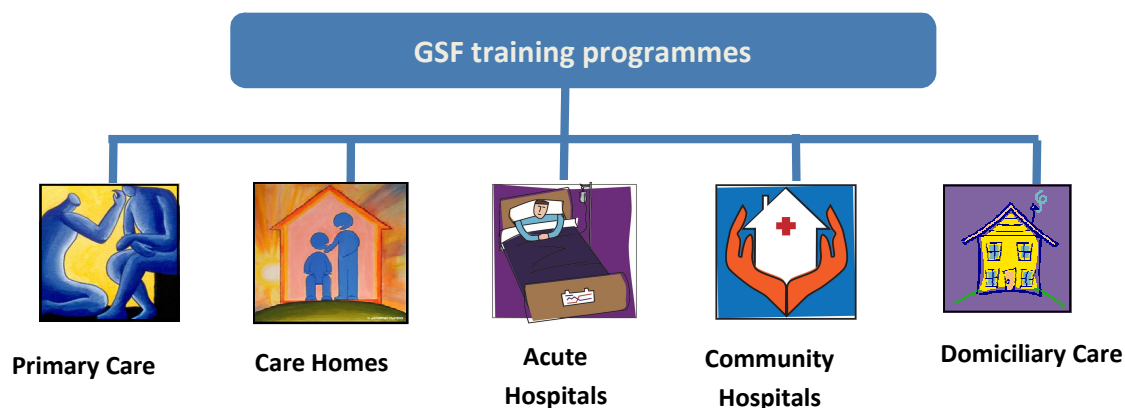
How does the GSF Training Programme help?

The National GSF Centre in End of Life Care is the UK's leading provider of training for generalist frontline staff.

In response to increasing awareness of end of life care issues for people with dementia and the need for further training, the GSF Centre has developed a new and unique **distance learning** training programme, featuring national experts on dementia care that will benefit everyone involved in dementia care.

The GSF Dementia Care programme includes:-

- Four one hour modules, with practical tips and advice, and activities and action planning
- It is available either on DVD or the GSF Virtual Learning Zone - used individually or as e-supported group learning
- All resources including Good Practice Guide and workbook
- Full evaluation and certification, with CAT points applied for
- Evaluation for individuals and organisations, to be able to demonstrate improved learning plus change in outcomes for patients e.g. reduced hospitalisation
- The programme has a specific focus on different areas of work e.g. care homes, hospitals



GSF

Enables Generalist frontline staff to deliver a 'gold standard' of care for people nearing the end of life; has been well evidenced and improves:

- ◆ Quality of care
- ◆ Coordination & Collaboration
- ◆ Cost effectiveness and reduces avoidable hospitalisation

GSF Quality Improvement Programmes include

- Full resources, Good Practice Guide, Workbook etc.
- DVD - distance learning or e-learning
- Full evaluation
- Certificate and Accreditation
- Endorsed by major policy groups

For further information contact the Gold Standards Framework Centre on:

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