

The GSF Care Homes Accreditation Process *Going for Gold*



Quality Improvement

Quality Assurance

Quality Recognition



- Objective and independent quality assurance for those homes that have undertaken the GSF Care Homes Training programme and can demonstrate full integration of the work into their home.
- It encourages a consistency of standards, locally adapted to ensure that care homes are more likely to 'keep the gold gold'.
- Accreditation leads to many benefits (see overleaf), and to becoming part of a national momentum of 'Solid Gold' homes, enabling continuous quality improvement.

Endorsed by care homes organisations (NCA, NCF, ECCA, RNHA) in improving quality of care.

The process entails 4 main areas of assessment:-

1. **Accreditation Checklist** – self assessment against 20 clear standards of best practice, with specific aims but flexibility of individual interpretation
2. **After Death Analysis** Online Audit tool – reviewing care of five residents following their deaths, as part of audit and reflective practice.
3. **Portfolio** – assembling evidence of use of the principles and key standards of GSF and integration into everyday practice, with the opportunity to showcase individual examples of excellence and creatively develop local initiatives and adaptations
4. **Quality Assessment visit** – a means of assessing the culture, feeling and daily practice within the home.

The findings from all four elements are presented to an independent Panel of quality assessors, including Age UK representatives.

- Registration available twice a year, each round of about 50 homes a time.
- Re- accreditation after 3 years to maintain the standard of excellence.
- Self appraisal yearly on sustainability and progress.
- Those homes that have been deferred are being supported to improve further, to reapply and to achieve the award next time.

Congratulations to all who have achieved the GSFCH Quality Hallmark Award

We are very proud of you!

"GSFCH has renewed my interest in what we do. This work has been 'life changing'"

GSFCH care home coordinator round 5

"The NCF is proud to be associated with the GSF which has been developed to ensure that people in care homes receive the best quality of care and support. The professional and rigorous framework that it brings and the commitment to staff training it requires, provides an important level of reassurance about the services being offered."

Des Kelly OBE, Executive Director, National Care Forum

'Every organisation involved in providing end of life care will be expected to adopt a coordination process, such as GSF'
DH End Of Life Strategy July 2008



Benefits of being a GSF Accredited Care Home – the ‘Solid Gold’ Group

“It’s a club you want to be part of!”

1	The Quality Hallmark Award. Receive your personal Award (plaque and certificate) supported by Age UK and endorsed by RNHA, ECCA, NCA, NCF. Accreditation lasts 3 years before re-appraisal.
2	A letter of confirmation from the GSF team sent to PCT commissioners and CQC +others to confirm that the home has received the Quality Hallmark Award
3	Your home is included on a special GSFCH national database , which is available to the general public, PCTs, SHAs, Local Authority etc and sent to CQC, You can then officially call yourself a ‘GSF Care Home’ in your documents and brochures.
4	Publicity - often significant local and national media interest in the award
5	Staff accreditation - able to proceed with Accreditation of GSFCH coordinators through a certified university course – currently being developed and more details later.
6	Newsletters and resources -You will receive newsletters, information and updated resources plus an opportunity to share good practice with other homes.
7	Website - Your own dedicated section of the GSF website for care homes, with email group replies, notice board etc
8	You can receive the End of Life Care Journal at reduced subscription rate with articles on good practice in nursing. Also reduced admission to conference events run by Healthcom on end of life care, wound care, lymphoedema, incontinence etc
9	Invitation to attend an Annual conference at reduced fee, sharing examples of good practice + update – held January and June each year
10	Further Training - Access and reduced subscription for other education course eg Clinical Course for Care Homes staff, Supportive Care Courses etc
11	ADA Audit tool - reduced subscription for use of sequential online ADA benchmark for care homes to provide local audit and benchmarked against others (to be confirmed)
12	Development of an accredited care home event.



*“The Gold Standards Framework will raise the bar in
End of Life Care”*
Paul Cann



GSFCH Training Programme Phase 7 is available can be commissioned from the National GSF Centre – contact

Pam Poole on pam.poole@gsfcentre.co.uk or info@gsfcentre.co.uk ph 01743 367066

and see GSFCH Briefing Paper on www.goldstandardsframework.nhs.uk

Omega supports the GSF ADA and the GSFCH accreditation process.
For more details see www.omega.net.uk. and contact info@omega.net.uk