**End of life care for people with dementia**

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.

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**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

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**The 4 key areas are to...**

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

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**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 Standard 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_

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**“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_

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**“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_

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**A limited number of free places supported by the DH Social Care Directorate are available**

APPLY EARLY
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 Programmes 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
- Has a specific focus on different areas of work e.g. care homes, hospitals

For further information contact the Gold Standards Framework Centre on:
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