We are delighted to announce that this year, there are 12 successfully Accredited care homes and 49 Re-accredited homes after 3 years, 20 of these are receiving their award for the third time (see list), building on the achievements of around 500 other care homes. The GSF care homes receiving the Quality Hallmark Award have demonstrated what is possible in care homes, both nursing and residential, and we are very proud of their achievements. They have made a real difference for their residents and their families and are an inspiration and encouragement to all. This confirms that their aspirations towards quality ‘gold standard’ care for people nearing the end of their life can be delivered to all residents in their final year or so of life.

Examples of best practice - what can be achieved by care homes

- Continued improvements in identifying deterioration and dying (70—100%)
- 100% offered an ACP discussion with an average of over 90% recorded ACP
- Trebling of care homes residents on GP Palliative Care Register (5%-43%, 10%-31% resp.)
- Increasing numbers dying in usual place of residence, on average over 80% home death rate
- Development of policies & protocols to enable sustained long term quality improvement

Key Outcome Ratios

Summary of cumulative results from care home key outcome ratios reaccredited homes

See full Accreditation and Re-Accreditation report for 2015 on the website.

“Implementing GSF in my Home has, for residents, relatives and staff, been one of the most positive, rewarding experiences we have had over the past 5 years.”

Helen Brewster, Care Home Manager
What is the GSF Going for Gold Programme and Quality Hallmark Award?

GSF is about the right care, for the right person, in the right place, at the right time, ....every-time

The GSFCH Quality Improvement Programme is ambitious, challenging & exciting. It is one of the biggest initiatives in end of life care ever attempted in this sector. Since 2004 over 2,500 care homes have participated in the programme, almost 500 have been accredited to date, with many having been reaccredited after 3 years showing sustained best practice.

- Objective and independent quality assurance for those homes that have undertaken the GSF in Care Homes Training Programme and can demonstrate full integration of the work into their home
- 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 website), becoming part of a national momentum of ‘Solid Gold’ homes, enabling continuous quality improvement
- Supported by the four major care homes organisations: NCA, Care England, RNHA and NCF, as well as other major policy groups, and well recognised by CQC as a marker of quality

“GSFCH has renewed my interest in what we do. This work has been ‘life changing’”
Care Home Manager

“GSF has helped us work even more closely with our local GPs and the hospital to make sure that happens. Now we have the satisfaction of knowing we are doing the best we can.”
GSF accredited home, St Bartholomew’s

GSF Care Home of the Year Award

The Gold Standards Framework Care Home of the Year award is a new initiative in which the very best Re-accredited care homes are eligible to be nominated for the award.

Nominees need to fulfil a set of robust criteria which include:-

- Evidence of a substantial contribution to the local or wider care community, e.g. Proactive in local EoLC forums
- Involvement in developing local/regional policy
- Significant contribution to the community
- Positive key outcome ratios re: ACP, care of the dying, etc.

For more details contact The National GSF Centre in End of life care
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