



Gold Standards Framework (GSF) - Enabling a 'gold standard' of care for people nearing the end of life

Introduction to the GSF Virtual Learning Zone

The aims of the GSF frameworks and quality improvement programmes are to support and enable health and social care workers to deliver

- better quality care for people nearing the end of life
- better coordination, communication across boundaries and team-working
- improved patient outcomes, enabling more to live and die where they choose

GSF quality improvement training programmes are now available as distance learning programmes via our new Virtual Learning Zone as well as the traditional method of DVD training packs. Training leading to GSF Accreditation and Certification is available online, making it easier for staff to access their learning and ensuring that GSF knowledge is shared throughout the organisation. Currently the GSF Primary Care and Dementia Care Training Programmes are available through the VLZ, the GSF Care Homes programme will launch later this year with others to follow.

This form of e-learning can be used in two ways - more usually we recommend it be used for a group watching the programme as 'e-supported group learning', enabling teams to watch modules together at times that are convenient to them, focussing on their own practice and experiences, whilst undertaking exercises in an interactive and dynamic way. Alternatively others can use the VLZ in the usual way of individual e-learning e.g. for some people using the dementia care programme as individuals for their own certification.

Who is this for?

- Generalist frontline health and social care staff
- Organisations and managers wishing to up-skill their whole team in the workplace
- Those who want to know more about end of life care

Benefits and Outcomes:

- Learn at your own pace at a time and place that is convenient to you
- Distance learning in your workplace, meaning less travel time and more efficient use of time
- More staff directly involved in training – can include all members of your team e.g. night staff
- Greater potential for group discussion amongst more team members leading to more rooted change relevant to your situation; teams progress together with everyone informed and involved
- Easier access to everything in one place – monitoring of progress
- Access to GSF training materials, resources and evaluations leading to GSF Accreditation and Certification
- Increased staff confidence, competence and morale, improved team work and collaboration
- Communication forums with the GSF team, other experts and to other participants

How it works:

- Once registration is completed VLZ users are provided with a User Name and Password to access their learning programme
- Sessions are broken down into 3 Learning Outcomes comprising of video footage with clear teaching, illustrations from real practice, opinions from experts and practitioners in each area, exercises for completion/reflection and Action Plans
- Users/teams work their way through all programme sessions
- On programme completion, embed into your practice and apply for GSF Accreditation or Certification

Further information:

For full details of costs and any further information please contact the GSF Centre:

Email vlz@gsfcentre.co.uk or contact Ann Pugh on 01743 291890