End of life care resources

Supporting people working with adults who are at the end of their life

Supporting someone approaching the end of their life can be the most challenging work any health and social care worker faces, but it can also be the most rewarding.

We’ve produced resources to support people working in adult social care to develop their skills and knowledge in this area. All of the resources are available online at:

www.skillsforcare.org.uk/endoflife
Integrated working

Working together to improve end of life care

‘Working together: Improving end of life care through better integration’ can help to increase awareness and understanding of how everyone involved can work together to improve end of life care. It includes a film and accompanying booklet to help people to understand all of the different job roles that may be involved in someone’s end of life care. This resource was produced as a result of a project which brought together workers from both health and social care.

Training for domiciliary care staff

A training resource is available for employers and/or managers of domiciliary care workers to use as part of their usual end of life care training and development or as part of a discussion. It aims to improve end of life care by domiciliary care staff.

Setting standards

Common core principles and competences

How people are supported at the end of their lives is very important. These principles for working with adults at the end of their life are aimed at non-specialist workers and their managers. They help to define the additional knowledge and competences needed when supporting someone who is dying. We developed them in partnership with Skills for Health.

End of Life Core Skills Training and Education Framework

Expanding on the Common core principles and competences, this framework outlines the core and transferable knowledge and skills applicable to social care professionals and to the general public, including people accessing end of life care services. It pays particular attention to the strengths and the potential of individuals and their communities.

All of our end of life care resources are available online at www.skillsforcare.org.uk/endoflife
Qualifications and training

Qualifications

We’ve developed end of life care qualifications together with a wide range of employers to equip workers to recognise and manage end of life situations more effectively.

The qualifications are aimed at all learners in social care and health with an interest in end of life care. The qualifications available are:

- Level 2 and 3 Awards in Awareness of End of Life Care
- Level 3 Certificate in Working in End of Life Care
- Level 5 Certificate in Leading and Managing Services to Support End of Life and Significant Life Events.

Six steps programme

We’ve developed a mapping tool to demonstrate how learning outcomes in the programme can produce evidence that could be used for assessment towards core units in end of life qualifications. This means that learners undertaking the programme can gain educational credits.

E-learning for health and social care workers

End of Life Care for All (e-ELCA) is a free e-learning programme which offers around 150 modules covering all aspects of end of life care. Some of the modules can be mapped to end of life care qualifications. If you’re a social care professional in England, you can access the e-learning by asking your employer to register with Skills for Care’s National Minimum Data Set for Social Care (NMDS-SC). You can then use the user registration code to access e-ELCA.

Best practice

End of life care and skills around the person

Work has been taking place to encourage better working between organisations and communities to improve skills and knowledge around end of life care. For example, hospices can provide good information to people in communities to enable them to support people to die well at home. We’ve produced some case studies to show how organisations have achieved this. They are available to read on our website www.skillsforcare.org.uk/satpcasestudies.
Learn from Others

If you’re looking for new and innovative ways to improve the quality of care you provide take a look at Learn from Others and select ‘end of life care’ under areas of interest. This free resource lets you to find out about good practice in other organisations and learn from some their challenges. It’s valuable in helping make the best use of often limited resources. Learn from Other is available online at www.skillsforcare.org.uk/LearnFromOthers.
All of our end of life care resources are available online at:

Improving end of life care in care homes across Yorkshire and the Humber: Achieving success in end of life care

This guide to delivering quality standards in care homes is designed to support you in the delivery of high quality person-centred care which is well planned, co-ordinated and monitored while being responsive to the individual’s needs and wishes. It follows the six steps of the end of life care pathway.

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www.skillsforcare.org.uk/endoflife