

Primary Care Lead Schwartz Rounds in Care Homes

Hammersmith & Fulham GP Federation is looking to foster greater relationships between care homes and primary care; putting care homes and those that live in them at the heart of our systems of care.

Summary

In December 2015, Hammersmith & Fulham GP Federation (HFGPF) signed a two year contract with the Point of Care Foundation for support and training to deliver Schwartz Round. Two GPs from Park Medical Centre, Dr Cecilia Dawson and Dr Louise Cavanagh, undertook the training required, supported by Caroline Durack, Integrated Care Lead for HFGPF and the first round happened in February 2016. In doing so we became the first ever GP practice, as well as first ever nursing home in the UK to sign up to Rounds, and we did both at once.

The initial focus for the rounds was with the Chiswick Nursing Centre where Park Medical Centre is the lead GP Practice. In total, 7 rounds have been held at the Chiswick Nursing Centre. Invites were extended to anyone who came to the Chiswick Nursing Centre on a regular basis – Care Home Staff – including reception and housekeeping, community / Local Authority and Mental Health Staff, in addition to clergy and Voluntary Groups.

Themes have included;

*A patient I remember well
I'm not the boss but I count
A good death
An unforgettable colleague
Caught in the middle
Managing Change
When things don't go to plan*

Schwartz Rounds are commencing in Park Medical Centre with subsequent rounds planned to rotate between the care home and the practice. Once embedded this will extend to neighbouring practices and to the extra care sheltered housing covered by the practice. Additional practitioners will soon commence their Schwartz Training with the aim of developing a Schwartz Round with each Care Home or within each of the 5 networks in Hammersmith & Fulham.

Summary of Outcomes

- 74% plan to attend another Schwartz Meeting
- 77% would recommend it to a friend
- 78% rated rounds exceptional / excellent
- 80% felt it helped them feel less isolated
- 60% felt it gave them more insight how to deal with people
- 36% felt it gave them increased confidence

Feedback Comments have included;

*This just gets better and better
Thank God for Schwartz
Appreciate the honesty of the panel;
Really excellent to hear about others experiences and realise that as a student I'm not alone
Really really useful and well supported*

