



# Using the Gold Standards Framework to provide excellent end of life care to a client with dementia





# ***Expecting The Worst Hoping For The Best***





# Patsy and Margaret

St. Anne's  
Community Services

Dignity Independence Opportunity Inclusion





# Impact of ageing population



- Increased life expectancy for people with learning disabilities
- Greater risk of developing conditions associated with old age such as dementia
- Significantly greater prevalence amongst people with Downs Syndrome (Kerr, 2007)





# Practical implications



Prognosis



Impact on Patsy



Impact on family/carers





# What is GSF?



- *A systematic evidence based approach to optimising the care for patients nearing the end of their lives.*
- ***Supports people to live well until they die***
- *A tool which provides staff working in care homes with an ordered way to manage dying.*
- *It helps clinicians identify patients in the last years of life, assess their needs, symptoms and preferences and plan care on that basis*





# GSF – Standards



1. Leadership & Support
2. Team Working
3. Documentation
4. Planning Meetings
5. GP Collaboration
6. Advance Care Planning
7. Symptom Control
8. Reduced Hospitalisation
9. Resuscitation status and verification of death
10. Out of hours continuity







# GSF – Standards

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11. Anticipatory prescribing
12. Reflective practice & audit
13. Education and training
14. Relatives support
15. Care in final days
16. Bereavement
17. Dignity
18. Dementia and cognitive impairment
19. Spiritual care
20. Sustainability & Continuous Quality Improvement







# GSF in Practice



- Advance Care Planning (6)– *Thinking Ahead*
- Person Centred Approach – *Individualised end of life care*
- GP Collaboration - *Partnership working* (5)
- Anticipatory prescribing (11)– *Having everything in place*
- Symptom control (7) – *Comfort and Dignity*





# Final Days



- Using prognostic indicator Guide to organise palliative & end of life care
- Co-ordinated care pathway – *Care in final days*
- Teamwork (2) – *Working together to make a difference*
- Leadership (1) – *Making it happen*





# Sustainability & Continuous Quality improvement



- Sustainability & Continuous Quality Improvement (20) – *Maintaining good practice*
- Wider benefits





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