

Introducing an **evaluation framework** to measure the impact of **education** on end of life care

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Care
Compassion
Understanding



Introduction

Clear evaluation strategies are necessary to demonstrate the impact of education and training beyond the classroom. There is a need for a coherent set of measures that show learning has occurred and brought about change in working practices (Clifton et al, 2007; Freeth et al, 2002; Gillie, 2006; Phillips & Stone, 2000).

Aim

To introduce an evaluation framework that facilitates measurement of the impact of education.

The Framework

- Models of evaluation have been developed based on Kirkpatrick's work in the 1950s.
- Clinical models measure patient outcomes while business models measure return on investment.
- Hospices do not fit business or clinical models; both perspectives must be addressed when considering impact.
- Efficacy of evaluation is dependent upon organisational culture.



- The proposed framework (Figure 1) enables the measurement of impact across core domains through the use of: questionnaires; assignments; clinical observation; interviews; patient outcome measures.
- Challenges will include engaging clinicians in adopting the framework and supporting leaders when implementing the framework in practice.

Figure 1: A proposed framework for evaluation for St Catherine's Hospice

Conclusion

The framework has the potential to demonstrate a change in clinical working practices that is directly linked to education. The advantages of the framework will be that individuals and teams exhibit the application of learning in clinical practice, organisations generate evidence for commissioners and educators demonstrate the difference education makes to patients.

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