

TALKING WITH DYING PATIENTS

Talking with Dying Patients is a study day for Health Care Support Workers.

Total Number of workshops between 1994 - 1998	-	12
Total Number of staff attended	-	125

AIM

To develop confidence in talking with dying patients.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the workshop, participants will be able to:

1. demonstrate an understanding of the feelings of people who are dying.
2. identify the ways they can communicate more effectively.

TALKING WITH DYING PATIENTS FOR MCSW

- 9.30 - Introduction
- Domestic Details
 - Ground rules
 - Aims and Objectives

OHP

Activity 1

- What can I give to today?
- What do I want from today?
- Share with partner
- Discuss in Group

Activity 2 Why is dying a difficult subject to talk about?

- ◆ Brainstorm
- ◆ Write up on Flip Chart
- ◆ The FACTS and the feelings

OHP

Activity 3 Fear of Dying

- Completely alone
- Discuss with partner/small Group
- Discussion Group

Activity 4 Recognise the other losses that the Dying may face

- ☆ Brainstorm
- ☆ Write up on Flip Chart
- ☆ Identify those that may be stigmatised
- ☆ What would the effect be?

Activity 5 Other People's Experience of Facing Death

- Watch Living with Dying Episode
- Discuss
- What did the dying find helpful?

Activity 6 Facing Death

- ▲ What may the dying need to know? OHP
- ▲ What may the dying need to do? OHP
- ▲ (How do people die?) OHP
- ▲ How can the HCSW help?

Activity 7 Breaking Bad News - A Doctor's Experience

- ✿ How do patients gain information?
- ✿ Brainstorm then OHP
- ✿ Breaking bad news - whose responsibility?
- ✿ Listen to Peter Maguire's tape
- ✿ Identify the process
 - screening
 - clarifying
 - summarising

Useful questions

- ⊖ Do you have any other concerns?
- ⊖ Can you bear to talk about it?

Activity 8 Developing Communication Skills

- * Why do we try to communicate? OHP
- * What are the major obstacles? OHP
- * Communication levels OHP
- * In Groups
 - Identify the ways we communicate
 - How can we do so more effectively?
 - Group feedback as brainstorm
- * In Pairs
 - Share an example of when you think communication went well and when it went badly.
 - Identify the factors that made a difference and share with group

Activity 9 Watch Everyman's St Christopher's Video

- * Discuss

Activity 10 Emotional Responses to Dying

- ⊗ In Groups, find open and closed responses to statements
- ⊗ Feed back and discuss each one OHP
- ⊗ Give further examples

Activity 11 Three Things I Will DO