Quality Markers for Care Homes

Description
The Quality Markers will be of use to service providers as a guide to assessing their progress in delivering improvements in end of life care.

Care homes to demonstrate:
• they have developed an action plan for end of life care, that is congruent with the strategic plan developed for the locality by Commissioners.
• they have mechanisms in place to discuss, record and (where appropriate) communicate the wishes and preferences of those approaching the end of life (advance care planning).
• that residents' needs for end of life care are assessed and reviewed on an ongoing basis.
• they nominate a key worker, if required, for each resident approaching the end of life.
• residents who are dying have an individual care plan.
• families and carers are involved in end of life care decisions to the extent that they and the resident wish.
• other residents are supported following a death in a care home.
• the quality of end of life care provided by the care home is audited and reviewed.
• they have processes in place to identify the training needs of all workers (registered and unregistered) in the care home that take into account the four core common requirements for workforce development (communication skills, assessment and care planning, advance care planning and symptom management) as they apply to end of life care.
• they take particular account of the training needs of those workers involved in discussing end of life issues with individuals and their families and carers.
• all care homes are aware of available end of life care training and enable relevant workers to access or attend appropriate programmes, dependent on their needs.
• processes are in place to review all transfers into and out of care homes for residents approaching the end of life.

Associated links