

About the facilitators

Nikki Archer is Clinical Support and Bereavement Service Manager at St Giles Hospice and Chair of the Association of Bereavement Service Co-ordinators

Linda Machin is a Visiting Research Fellow at Keele University and a bereavement counsellor

Marilyn Relf is Head of Education at Sobell House and Director of Studies, Post Graduate Certificate Working with Bereaved Adults

They have between them a wealth of experience in developing, leading and researching bereavement services. They understand both the theoretical and practical issues involved in assessment and in delivering equitable and accessible bereavement services.

If you need to stay overnight in Oxford you can find a comprehensive list of hotels and bed and breakfast accommodation at www.oxfordcity.co.uk or telephone the Tourist Information Centre 01865 726871.

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Sobell Study Centre
Sir Michael Sobell House

Implementing the *Guidance for Bereavement Needs Assessment in Palliative Care*

19 January 2010

£100 (includes refreshments & lunch)

Sobell House

Marilyn Relf, Linda Machin and Nikki Archer

Education and Research in Palliative Care



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Guidance for bereavement needs assessment

Target audience

This study day is aimed at people who are leading bereavement services, senior nurses and Clinical Nurse Specialists who wish to introduce or improve a bereavement assessment processes. Ideally bereavement service personnel and nurses from the same organisation will attend in pairs.

About this course

Not all bereaved people need or want ongoing bereavement care, and making the best use of often limited bereavement services relies on the ability of palliative care nurses and bereavement service co-ordinators to assess need. Traditional methods of assessment are either informal and ad hoc or dependent on checklists of risk factors with uncertain reliability. The Guidance for Bereavement Needs Assessment (2008), published by Help the Hospices, describes a new approach based on identifying coping strategies, resilience and vulnerability and on collaborative working with families pre bereavement. This study day with the authors of the Guidance will provide an opportunity to explore the concepts and processes involved and to plan how these can be successfully implemented in practice. It will draw on an action research project exploring the experience of taking the Guidance into practice in three pilot sites. The Guidance can be downloaded from www.helpthehospices.org.uk. This day may be taken in conjunction with Mapping Grief: Working Therapeutically with Bereaved People, on 22 April 2010.

This study day will help participants to:

- Understand the purpose of needs assessment in relation to bereavement services
- Explore how to assess resilience and vulnerability
- Experience using the Range of Response to Loss matrix
- Consider what is involved in creating an assessment pathway
- Explore the organisational issues involved in implementing assessment and learn how these are being addressed in three pilot sites that have implemented the Guidance
- Create an action plan for introducing needs assessment based on the Guidance.

Programme

09:30	Registration and coffee
10:00	Welcome and introduction to the day
10:15	Introduction to the Guidance for Bereavement Needs Assessment
10:45	Response to Loss model: key concepts
11:30	Coffee
11:50	Using the Range of Response to Loss matrix
13:00	Lunch
13:45	Individual and organisational challenges in implementing assessment of needs: issues and strategies
14:30	Creating an assessment pathway
15:00	Tea
15:20	Implementing the Guidance: action planning
16:30	End

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