

THE ART OF

Facilitating an Online Schwartz Round

Schwartz Rounds are facilitated multidisciplinary conversations about the emotional impact of our work.

Online Schwartz Rounds aim to provide a safe space for colleagues to reflect together on the lived experience of working in healthcare, helping staff feel connected and supported.

BEFORE THE ROUND?

Facilitators should take a few minutes to:

- Slow down, have a tea or coffee, allow yourself to enter a reflective space
- Check roles with your co-Facilitator/Clinical Lead
- Join the chosen online platform and check the settings for camera/audio
- Ensure the panelists join a few minutes before the Round starts - calm nerves, create a positive atmosphere
- Welcome attendees as they join & invite them to introduce themselves in the chat function
- Start on time



DURING THE ROUND

- Lock the meeting to ensure no uninvited parties can join the session
- Mute attendees and switch off cameras apart from Panelists, Clinical Lead & Facilitator
- Introduce the Round, the Process & the Panelists,
- Set usual groundrules re: confidentiality, timing, judgement etc.
- Panelists share their stories without interruption



MANAGING THE DISCUSSION

- Thank the Panelists
- Invite attendees to turn on their cameras & type their name in the chat function should they wish to contribute
- Unmute people in the order that their names appear in the chat function
- Summarise and reflect to keep discussion moving
- Validate contributions & sew new seeds



ENDING THE ROUND

- Allow the Panelists to have the last word
- Thank the Panelists and the audience
- Signpost the staff supports available to those who may like to access them
- Put feedback link in the chatbox function
- Finish with a butterfly hug or other grounding technique



OTHER TIPS

- Acknowledge the isolation
- Close the Round with a nod to the post-Round feeling
- Verbalise the non-verbal
- Take some time for yourself after the Round

