



Schwartz Rounds

Understanding the challenges and rewards that come with providing healthcare

Schwartz Rounds are conversations with staff about the emotional impact of their work. They provide a valuable opportunity for all staff to reflect on their work through conversations facilitated by a local clinical lead and facilitator.

Schwartz Rounds:

- are open to all staff members including non-clinical staff. Three or four stories are told at each Round, which are used as a springboard for a wider discussion beyond the case itself.
- learning is focused on understanding staff experience from a social and emotional point of view.
- are not designed as a form of peer supervision and do not fit the traditional model of clinical supervision.
- should not be used as a form of debriefing. If there is a case that has been particularly troubling for staff and the organisation, a certain amount of time will need to pass before it is addressed in a Round.

Benefits

Schwartz Rounds help staff because they reduce the feelings of stress and isolation which make it more difficult to provide compassionate care to patients. Schwartz Rounds also foster a greater sense of collaboration with colleagues because the stories that are shared during Rounds remind staff of their shared motivation to help their patients.

85% of staff who participate in Schwartz Rounds feel better able to care for patients. Schwartz Rounds give staff confidence in their ability to attend to the emotional aspects of patient care.

Therefore, patients will benefit if staff feel supported by their organisations.

