



St Wilfrid's Hospice
Reaching out to transform
end of life care

Schwartz Round Story Teller Focus Groups

After 1 year of Schwartz Rounds at St Wilfrid's Hospice, Eastbourne, we decided to seek feedback from our Story Tellers in order to assess their experience of speaking at Schwartz Rounds.

In addition to completing the Point of Care Foundation questionnaire, the story tellers were invited to attend one of two "focus groups" to give them a chance to join in informal discussions.

A total of 10 story tellers attended the groups and there was good discussion, with honest feedback and ideas for the future. The quotes below are taken from focus group comments.

Three story tellers looking relaxed before the round!



"Difficult process but worthwhile"

"Valued preparation meetings"

"No negative aspects once nerves overcome"

"MORE CONFIDENT TO SHOW EMOTION AND COPE WITH EMOTION SHOWED BY OTHER MEMBERS OF TEAM"

"Being a storyteller led to self reflection and self development whereas being in audience allowed lid to be lifted off emotions"

The Focus Groups enabled wide ranging discussion about the experience of being a story teller, the after effects and ideas for the future. The latter included trying smaller rounds with a mix of 2 teams, and setting titles 6 months in advance to allow managers to find story tellers from their teams.

We will be aiming to hold focus groups annually as they were deemed a worthwhile way of obtaining additional storyteller feedback and keeping the momentum of Schwartz Rounds going.