

Proof of Evidence Heather Goding RGN Bsc Palliative Care



I qualified as a Registered General Nurse in 1993 from the Norfolk and Norwich Teaching Hospital.

My final placement was on an Oncology/Palliative Care Unit and it was this experience that shaped my future career. From 1993-1999 I worked as a Staff Nurse on the unit nursing patients who were undergoing Chemotherapy and Radiotherapy treatments. My duties included administrating Chemotherapy in the in-patient and day unit and caring for patients in the final phase of their lives.

In 1999 I relocated to Worcestershire and was fortunate to take up the position of Macmillan Nurse in Warwick Hospital. During this time, I gained my Bsc in Palliative Care from UCE Birmingham.

In 2005 I was successful in obtaining the post of Lead Macmillan Nurse for Warwickshire which I held until my retirement in 2019.

I was responsible for the day-to-day operational management of the specialist palliative care teams Acute and Community whilst playing a county-wide strategic role in local planning of specialist palliative care services, in line with local and national strategy. I maintained my clinical competence working as an advanced highly reflective practitioner using evidence-based skills and expert knowledge to ensure individualised holistic therapeutic patient care. I led in the development and provision of specialist palliative care education and training and actively participated in these programmes.

Since retiring I have taken on a nurse co-ordinator role with Shipston Home Nursing, a local hospice at home service. The service cares for patients with illnesses which do not respond to curative treatment and who wish to be nursed at home. This role involves conducting new assessments, managing symptom control issues, allocating staff to patient visits, attending multi-disciplinary meetings, liaising with Continuing Health Care to ensure packages of care are

appropriate to patient needs. Through this role I am able to maintain my clinical competences.

In addition, since 2019 I have worked as a care expert witness focussing on care for people with life-limiting illnesses such as mesothelioma and cancer. I have undertaken training and gained skills and experience in writing care reports, attending case conferences and preparing joint statements. I participate in ongoing training to ensure that my reports are CPR compliant.

In conjunction with a former colleague we have developed a range of bespoke End of Life Training packages.

My entire nursing career has been devoted to working within the field of End-of-Life Care both in clinical and managerial roles and as such I have developed excellent communication and assessment skills.