


Working with families and friends

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Working with families

- * Often communicating with families presents us with the most difficulties
- * Discuss in groups of 2-3 your experiences of this
- * Feedback as a group and think about possible reasons

No man is an island... ..



Genograms

- * Understanding that we are all a part of a system and are affected by this
- * Belief systems/health/attitude to doctors etc are often developed in our early life and continue to influence us
- * Family script / corrective family script
- * Draw own genogram
- * Discuss in pairs

Working with families

- * We are all a part of a system
- * How families respond to crises
- * All families are different!
- * How do they react to waiting?
- * How do they cope with doctors/hospitals?
- * How good are they at asking for help?
- * General level of assertiveness
- * Does everyone have a voice?
- * Underlying/historical difficulties

Emotional Style

- * Talking style
- * Who talks to who
- * What are the 'no go' areas
- * Information sharing
- * Style of listening
- * How do people notice

Video clip

- * Asking what do they want?
- * Respecting wishes and trying to meet needs

What is it like waiting for someone to die?

- * Discuss in small groups what this might feel like
- * Feedback and discuss as a whole group
- * Conflicting, strong emotions
- * How this presents in the bereavement service

Curiosity

- * Believing that you don't know it all
- * Asking questions
- * Challenging your own assumptions
- * Being interested in everyone (even if they're not there)
- * Being interested in similarities and differences
- * Importance of consistency in the message a staff team give – this is hard sometimes
- * Sensitivity to family dynamics can make a big difference