

Preparing Your Organisation to Manage the Impact of Cancer in the Workplace

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Wednesday 12th February 2025 Virtual Half Day Masterclass



Facilitated by:
Claire Walker
*Business and Service
Development Manager*

Barbara Gonzalez
Counsellor

Lucy Kitchener
*CEO We Hear
You*

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COURSE OVERVIEW

This seminar is perfect for senior staff who wish to improve the support offered to employees who have been impacted by cancer.

KEY LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Support staff in the workplace who are impacted by cancer or other life-threatening conditions.
- Understand how cancer or a life-threatening condition can impact your employee, their wellbeing and their ability to work.
- Handle difficult situations where staff might be upset or angry and maintain your professional boundaries when supporting colleagues.
- Put in place proactive support for employee's mental health concerns through the impact of diagnosis, treatment and beyond.
- Understand how employee's mental health can be impacted, and how you can protect their mental health.
- Develop an effective life-threatening conditions policy.

PROGRAMME OUTLINE

The number of people under 50 years old diagnosed with cancer worldwide has risen more than 80 per cent since 1990. The British Medical Journal has published research by a global team of oncologists which suggests early onset of cancer will rise by a further 30 per cent by the end of the decade (BMJ). Every year in the UK more than 120,000 people of working-age receive a cancer diagnosis (Institute of Employment Studies and Working With Cancer).

Navigating the period during an employee's diagnosis, or the diagnosis of someone they care for, can be a difficult time for employers. How do you effectively support an employee during such uncertain times? How can you put in place proactive support for employee's care plans and mental health, and what should your life-threatening illness policy look like?

Join us for this half-day seminar to explore these common questions and improve the support you can offer to your employees.

You will come away with a better understanding of the impact a cancer or life-threatening condition can have on your employees, whether that be their own diagnosis or that of a close loved one, how it impacts their work and what practical steps you can take to support employees in the workplace.

During the day, you will have plenty of time to network with colleagues, discuss specific challenges and put your questions to the facilitators.

FACILITATORS

Claire Walker has over ten years' experience working in employee benefits during which time she was diagnosed with breast cancer. Attending WHYoutdoors was a vital part of her recovery.

Lucy Kitchener has experience of managing employees with cancer and personal experience as an employee caring for her Mum through treatment and subsequent bereavement.

Barbara Gonzalez has been a counsellor for WHY since 2019 and has worked with many adults and children across community and schools impacted by cancer and life threatening conditions. She also runs therapeutic nature based wellbeing groups and facilitated WHYoutdoors for several years.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

HR staff and those with line management responsibility.

VIRTUAL PROGRAMME

1.30pm REGISTRATION

1.35pm Introductions and aims for the day

1.45pm Understanding - Gain understanding of cancer or life-threatening diagnoses

- Self Care
- Common assumptions / misconceptions
- Life-threatening / Life-limiting
- Who needs supporting • Real-life experiences / Common Experiences
- Emotional Impact
- Financial Impact
- Bereavement

2.30PM COMFORT BREAK AND VIRTUAL NETWORKING

2.45pm Confidence - Supporting those who are impacted

- Providing effective support
- Dealing with distress, anger and/or denial
- Intentions - Statement of principles / Workplace pledge Maintaining professional boundaries
- The Equality Act 2010 – The Carers Act

3.30PM COMFORT BREAK AND VIRTUAL NETWORKING

3.45pm Proactively supporting employees

- Developing a life-threatening conditions policy
- What to include
- Who to involve
- Reviewing Support for managers, work family and teams Training
- Counselling Support for employees impacted from diagnosis, treatment, return to work and beyond
- Specialised Counselling
- Therapeutic services
- Service Plan
- Resource Signposting

4.20PM OPEN FORUM AND CLOSE OF DAY

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Half Day Virtual Masterclass

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Venue
This is a virtual masterclass, with private login details to further online resources and interactive content. Log in details will be sent one week before the event.

Date
 Wednesday 12th February 2025

Virtual Fee
£195 + VAT for NHS, Social care, private healthcare organisations and universities.

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