**Increasing the uptake of Home Haemodialysis by using focused education and awareness for staff in the wider renal community**

**Background**

Wessex Kidney centre commenced a home haemodialysis programme in November 2009, and over the past 8 years this has become a sustainable and actual offering, training in excess of 250 patients and is now established and thriving.. However due to patient drops from home therapy primarily due to transplantation and death our current patients at home sits at approximately 90 patients. The programme appears to have reached an equilibrium whereby the uptakes from patients training are comparable to drops which in turn is inhibiting growth. With new staff now appointed to further grow the programme this has afforded us the ability to revisit our processes to increase awareness, knowledge and benefits for patients to dialyse at home.

**Method**

A decision was made to assign a half day on the unit Rota to review, update and streamline current processes. The session was planned in a constructive and positive manner, utilising the time effectively with pre-work assigned to the staff. Agenda included:

* Review of current programme
* Belbin’s team roles
* Use of collaborative, creative planning tool to identify way forward

Planned and structured approach to the use of these methods gave the opportunity to establish feasible and functional outcomes in order to sustain continued success and growth for the programme.

**Results**

We identified each team member’s strengths from using the Belbin model and devised a plan to improve communication with Renal health care professionals outside of the home team. Utilising the creative planning tool enabled us to produce a mission statement recognising our shared vision to ensure the continued success and growth of our programme whilst promoting the benefits of frequent home dialysis to all patients

**Conclusion**

The findings from the session showed several reasons for the reduction in patient uptake. Re-energising awareness of home programme and processes put in place to allow this to happen included:

* Each member of the home team allocated to an individual satellite unit to work closely with the designated home haemodialysis link nurse within the area to deliver:
  + - Staff education
    - Patient awareness days
    - Link nurse study days
    - Closer worker relationships

Ultimately creating a patient pipe line working closely alongside pre-dialysis clinics, in centre/satellite units and PD teams to increase training rates above the patient drop line.