COLLABORATION IN EDUCATION TO MEET THE QIPP AGENDA: AN INNOVATIVE CONSORTIUM APPROACH
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In early 2011 three established hospices in the South West went beyond the rhetoric. They agreed to work in formal collaboration to address the education needs of their own, and external,
clinical and non-clinical staff. A discussion paper was written
drawing from the literature of both industry and education. A
meeting of key stakeholders in March 2011 agreed a 6–12 month
lead in time to the formation of an education consortium.

Aim
- To establish a gold standard for equitable and transferrable
  EOLC education for clinical and non-clinical staff
- To meet the QIPP agenda with economies of scale
- To remove the element of competition and enable a united
  approach to future income generation.

Method
- Initial honest transparent discussion to consider four func-
  tional areas of the consortium: ownership, leadership,
  membership and partnership
- This informed the governance structure and roles and func-
  tions of the staff
- A letter of intent was signed by each stakeholder
  organisation
- It was agreed that the consortium would be seen as part of
  each organisation and not an external entity
- A work plan was agreed.
The mapping process has begun to look at resources in each
stakeholder organisation: business development expertise, IT
resources and systems, human resources and their capacity as
well as the existing education programmes and their current
delivery format.
The work of the consortium is in its infancy. In all senses it
is a learning organisation as we explore this new approach to
sustainable delivery of appropriate End of Life education. The
outcome and discussion will be rich by September 2011 and
will focus on both the joys and challenges of this work.