





# Building organisations which sustain rather than damage employee well-being

#### Michael West The King's Fund and Lancaster University



'Compassionate leadership for compassionate health services'

- Attending: paying attention to staff 'listening with fascination'
- Understanding: shared understanding of what they face
- Empathising
- Helping: taking intelligent action to serve or help

West, M. S., & Chowla, R. (2017). Compassionate leadership for compassionate health care. In P. Gilbert (Ed.).*Compassion: concepts, research and applications. London: Routledge*, 237-57.

## Compassion in health care

- 17/18 studies show compassion declines during clinical training
- Compassion from anaesthetists vs sedatives – patients calm but not drowsy. 50% lower requirement for opiates post surgery.
- Decreased length of stay.
- Patients randomly assigned to compassionate palliative care survived 30% longer
- Post-operative nurse compassion associated with 50% lower pain ratings; pain management – compassion group 47% less pain in relevant brain areas of pain



## Compassion in health care

- Diabetes optimal blood sugar control 80% higher. 41% lower odds of complications
- Wound healing 17% quicker
- HIV patients 33% higher adherence to therapy and 20% lower odds detectable virus; 62% higher odds of adherence to treatment
- 65% of variance in patient satisfaction, 50%+ fewer referrals and readmissions, quicker recovery



## Compassion in health care

- More compassion does not affect encounter length; being compassionate – lower depression, anxiety, distress
- Time pressures profoundly reduce compassion - time affluence; 56% of health care providers don't think they have time for compassion
- Size of effects is greater than effects of aspirin in heart attacks, and of statins in five year risk of cardiovascular event



#### ABC of Core Needs at Work

- Voice and influence for all Perceived justice and fairness • Primary interventions to protect well-being •Flexible, protective work patterns Good working conditions Collective leadership • Effective multi-disciplinary team work Inspiring vision & values lived by all •Compassionate leadership, at all levels •Effective inclusion and diversity culture •Effective inter-team/ cross boundary work
  - Autonomy and Control: Influence and 'voice' within a just, supportive culture

• Manageable and safe workloads

- Effective line management/supervision
- Clear goals and performance
   management
- Focus on learning rather than blame
- Continuous learning & QI for all

Belonging: Effective inclusive team working in inclusive, compassionate cultures

**Competence:** Fulfilling growth, skill development, and careers

## Most important predictors of overall patient satisfaction 2014-2015



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### **Cultures for high quality care**

- 1. An inspirational vision of high quality care
- 2. Clear aligned goals at every level with helpful feedback
- 3. Good people management and employee engagement
- 4. Continuous learning and quality improvement
- 5. Enthusiastic team-working, cooperation and integration



West, Baker, Dawson, Dixon Woods, et al. (2013) "Quality and safety in the NHS." Lancaster, University of Lancaster.

#### People management and engagement

- Staff views of leaders → patients' views of care quality
- Staff satisfaction → patient satisfaction
- High work pressure  $\rightarrow$  less compassion, privacy, respect.
- Poor staff well-being  $\rightarrow$  poorer CQC performance (and £)
- Good HRM practices  $\rightarrow$  lower patient mortality



https://www.nhsemployers.org/-/media/Employers/Publications/Research-report-Staff-experience-and-patient-outcomes.pdf https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nhs-staff-management-and-health-service-quality https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/links-between-nhs-staff-experience-and-patient-satisfaction-analysis-of-surveys-from-2014and-2015/

#### 3. Employee engagement success factors

A compelling strategic narrative	Inclusive leadership and management	Staff in charge of service change	Values and Integrity	
<ul> <li>A clear narrative on their purpose and aims</li> <li>'providing the highest quality health and social care to our local communities and staying true to and embodying the organisation's values'</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Retraining leadership to adopt inclusive, compassionate and supportive styles</li> <li>In house programmes to retrain all managers in compassionate and collaborative leadership</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Staff have skills, time, freedom, resources and responsibility for leading service change</li> <li>Wrightington Wigan &amp; Wigan and Leigh and Unipart</li> <li>Buckinghamshire and ELFT programmes</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Importance of values and trust in senior leadership</li> <li>Perceptions of unfairness and intention to leave</li> <li>Fairness of procedures</li> <li>Bullying and discrimination.</li> </ul>	
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Stable senior leadership

www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/staff-engagement

www.kingsfund.org.uk/sites/default/files/employee-engagement-nhs-performance-west-dawson-leadership-review2012-paper.pdf

# How to develop the leadership capabilities to deliver the culture?



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#### Seeking a Better Approach to Change

- Designed to be delivered internally
- Open-source
- Evidence based
- Integrated



#### And ... the change team:

Volunteers from across the organisation

- Between 15-20
- Help deliver and analyse the tools
- Most importantly- act as ambassadors for the work

## We have designed a programme to be delivered in three phases





https://improvement.nhs.uk/resou rces/culture-and-leadership/

## Culture and Leadership Programme





#### **Culture Phase 2: List of evidence-based interventions**



Vision and Values Values based Recruitment Values Based Appraisal and Performance Management Values-focused curricula Annual talent cycle	Lead Incl Iead Teal Dev beh	s and Performance ders role job design usive recruitment Regular (annual) ership forecast update n goals elopment on providing feedback on goals, aviour and performance apassionate Performance Management
Team Work Strategic recruitment for diverse teams Selection for team orientation Selection for team leadership capability Board/Executive Team development Team leadership training Team-based appraisals Working with shared team-leadership (peer coaching) After action reviews and team reflexivity System Leadership	Support and Compassion Recruiting and promoting for compassion Emotional Intelligence Development Inclusion - listening with fascination and compassion Peer coaching Mentoring Diversity and Equal opportunities training Identity-based talent management	Learning and Innovation         Developing cultures for innovation         Leading for QI         Developmental assignments         Action Learning         Recruit for commitment to innovation & QI         Development for leading innovation and         Change



Belonging Sleep Exercise Being Present Learning Giving







MICHAEL A. WEST





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## Thank you!