



INNOVATIVE LIFELONG LEARNING OF EUROPEAN GENERAL PHYSICIANS IN QUALITY IMPROVEMENT SUPPORTED BY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(InGPInQI Project No. 2010-1-PL1-LEO05-11473)

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Leonardo da Vinci Programme: Transfer of Innovation 2010

Budget: 367.250 EUR (total)

Duration: 24 months (December 2010 – November 2012)

Transferred methodologies:

- 1) LdV project PL 02/B/F/PP 140056 "Towards development of the European Network of Postgraduate and Continuous Education of Family Physicians., - a distance-learning module dedicated to GPs, and an EURACT course for GPs' tutors
- 2) LdV project PL/00/B/F/PP/140 155 "Improvement of Employment of Public Health Graduated" (2000-2002) - a tool measuring educational needs through the Internet

Partnership:

- 6 Partners (5 countries: PL, CZ, DK, NL, SI):
 - ✓ P0 – Zdrowie i Zarządzanie Sp. z o.o. (eng. Health & Management Ltd.) - project coordinator
 - ✓ P1 – The College of Family Physicians in Poland
 - ✓ P2 – EQuiP (European Working Party on Quality in Family Practice)
 - ✓ P3 – ZRDM (Institute for development of Family medicine)
 - ✓ P4 – Maastricht University (Department of International Health)
 - ✓ P5 – Project HOPE Czech Republic

Background

General practitioners/family doctors (GP/FD) involvement in the CVD "first-line" treatments, prevention and health promotion is a problem of highest importance in European public health (PH). They should be well prepared throughout their career to provide high quality primary medical care. However, in Central and Eastern Europe primary care, quality improvement (QI) is a new development where the QI projects are rather rarely undertaken. This is also a problem in other EU countries. The appropriately planned education activities, are then highly desirable. In order to accelerate the speed of adoption of QI and to avoid the repetition of mistakes, GPs from different parts of Europe should be supported by appropriate teaching programmes (at lifelong learning level) in the field of quality, that help them in studying of examples of good practice in their fellow countries and adapting it in their everyday practice.

Target Groups

- 1) Trainers of general practitioners (so called GPs' Tutors)
- 2) General practitioners/family doctors (GPs)

Aim

To improve the existing training programs for both, GPs/FDs and teachers in family medicine (FM) in the field of QI by implementing new innovative didactic tools and methods in existing educational systems in Europe supported by IT.

The project not only lead to broaden the offer of their educational process, but also to the improvement its quality and attractiveness . It will provide GPs with opportunities for vocational advancement and enable developing of common, European frame of reference for GPs' occupational competencies. A new Internet tool measuring the gaps between the acquired and required competencies will be a basis for development of a new curriculum for GPs and FM teachers in QI field tailored to the real „market” needs.

The project is focused on the clinical aspects of the QI process, especially on the area of cardiovascular diseases (CVDs), e.g. :
(1) arterial hypertension and (2) diabetes mellitus.

Foreseen outcomes

- development of both: GPs' and trainers' professional qualifications,
- improvement of quality and attractiveness of their training system,
- increase the number of participants attending the LLL medical education,
- improvement of GPs' experience, knowledge, skills in the field of conducting and incorporating QI projects in the everyday clinical setting,
- quality improvement of the health care services provided at primary level,
- support the GPs' continuous education process (lifelong learning), improving professional competences of staff and strengthening PHC on the EU level,
- patient's care improvement.

Work Plan

The analysis of required competencies in the field of QI will be conducted and the framework of European curriculum of QI training programme for GP/FD will be set. All the training materials and courses developed in the project will be based on the data of the identified gaps in the educational systems and required competencies. A joint pilot VET course will be conducted, whereas the final version will be adapted to the adequate conditions in the participating countries. Main Work Packages are:

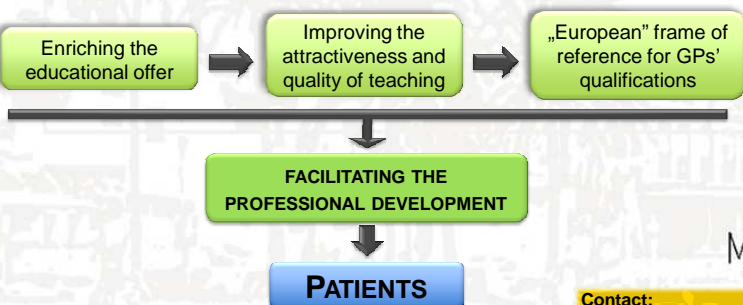
- WP 1 – Analysis of the existing training programs in the field of QI in FM
- WP 2 – Mapping of successfully implemented QI projects in GPs' practice in Europe
- WP 3 – Transfer of a tool measuring educational needs through the Internet
- WP 4 – Development of the Guide Book
- WP 5 – Design and testing of vocational training (VET) for teachers in FM
- WP 6 – Development and testing of the Internet course dedicated to QI
- WP 7 – Development of new guidelines for the management of: arterial hypertension and diabetes mellitus – polish perspective
- WP 8 – Evaluation strategies
- WP 9 – Disseminations and exploitations strategies
- WP 10 – Management

Expected results

- (1) **GuideBook** containing guidelines on effective development and implementation of QI programmes on EU level,
- (2) **New guidelines** for the management of: arterial hypertension and diabetes mellitus,
- (3) **Innovative VET program** for FM teachers,
- (4) **Distance-learning module** for GPs on QI,
- (5) **Internet tool** to identify individual, educational needs of GP/FDs in QI.

Conclusions

The InGPInQI project is foreseen to influence national VET systems in the partner countries for GP/FD. This - by the developing teachers knowledge and skills, changing teachers' and trainees' approach to QI and providing resources for education, can be obtained. It is expected to be an important step that can influence on the health outcomes of primary care.



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