

Innovation for Dementia in the Danube Region (INDEED) Educational concept

With few exceptions, dementia is a chronic health condition that has a profound negative impact on an individual's cognitive and functional-abilities, behaviour, interpersonal relationships and financial resources. Dementia makes a person increasingly dependent on support by others and thus is not only a problem of an individual but of a social system. For these reasons, the management of dementia requires the long-term collaboration of multiple occupations. However, professionals involved in dementia care are usually educated and trained separately, resulting in different concepts and approaches of care which interfere with the planning, integration and coordination of services.

To overcome the fragmentation of dementia-related education and training, the INDEED (Innovation for Dementia in the Danube Region) project has developed an educational programme that addresses multiple professions simultaneously and complements occupation-specific curricula.

The educational vision of the INDEED project

- Professionals involved in dementia care need a common concept of the condition that integrates neurobiological, medical, psychological and social perspectives in order to work together effectively and take advantage of all available options to improve the quality of life of people with dementia and their carers.
- Mutual understanding and valuing of each profession's unique contribution to dementia care are essential for collaboration, as are practical ways of communication.
- The creation of urgently needed services can be stimulated by providing principles and models of entrepreneurial activity.

Modern ways of information delivery

The INDEED educational programme features a blended-learning format which combines interactive workshops and a multimedia online learning platform. Face-to-face contact and interaction are essential for great learning effects while internet-based learning overcomes geographical and mobility-related barriers. The contents of the programme are in line with medical guidelines and easily comprehensible for all professional groups involved. The programme is being evaluated in a series of multiprofessional workshops during 2020 in four countries (Bulgaria, Slovakia, Slovenia, Romania). The workshops will include brief expert lectures, group work, moderated discussions and case rounds as well as the presentation and testing of the online platform.

Resources for blended learning

For the interactive face-to-face part of the educational programme, presentation kits, a networking manual and a workshop guide are produced. For the multimedia online learning platform, infographics, cartoons, animated videos, interviews and quizzes are freely accessible on www.indeed-project.eu. The online platform is interactive, supports the individual choice of

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preferred educational content, ensures simple navigation. Both parts of the blended-learning concept are available in Bulgarian, Slovakian, Slovenian and Romanian.

Meeting framework conditions for interdisciplinary dementia education

The INDEED educational programme is based on results of an expert survey (2018) that indicated the demand for an internet-based, interdisciplinary programme for dementia education. This study also showed that three common objectives and fields of action for professional dementia education in the Danube region have emerged. All of these three fields of action are targeted by INDEED's educational programme in a comprehensive didactic format.

Moreover, the INDEED educational programme is co-designed with representatives of higher education, medical institutions and policy makers from the Danube region.

INDEED educates

by providing a shared source of up-to-date high quality information for multiple health and social professions as well as entrepreneurs

INDEED connects

by highlighting the mutual benefits of interprofessional collaboration and by supplying practical networking tools

INDEED innovates

by promoting entrepreneurial activity in the field of dementia

Impact on practice

The evaluation results of the educational programme will be made public and shared with interested stakeholders including institutions of higher education, government authorities and municipal organisations. By continuously informing these stakeholders about the development and piloting of the educational programme, close partnerships are evolving that may lead to a roll-out of the educational programme to other parts of the Danube region.

Please find the contact details on our website:

<http://www.interreg-danube.eu/indeed>

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INDEED is part of the Thematic Pole 9 focusing on “Educational Governance” of the Danube Transnational Programme. The pole connects projects that aim at improving institutional capacities to tackle major societal challenges.

The activities of the pole revolve among others around some of INDEED's core topics:

- developing blended learning tools for institutional learning
- creating and implementing educational governance models with transnational and intersectoral cooperation

Through the involvement in the Thematic Pole, INDEED contributes to gathering and sharing best practices for institutional learning involving stakeholders from different sectors and several countries in the Danube Region. Thus, it is assured that the methodology developed within the project is transferable to further sectors and countries in the Danube Region.



**POLE 9: Educational
governance**



Danube Transnational Programme

www.interreg-danube.eu/relevant-documents/dtp-capitalisation-strategy/thematic-pole-9-educational-governance