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Quality Mentorship for Developing Competent Nursing Students

Welcome to the first edition of the QualMent Project eBulletin!

We will publish this eNewsletter on a half-yearly basis. For more frequent updates, you can visit our [website](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) (@QualMentProject).

If you have any queries, please contact us at: qualmentproject@gmail.com

The project objectives

Quality mentorship for developing competent nursing students (QualMent) is a 28 months project co-funded by the Erasmus+ programme. Started in September 2018, with a kick-off event on 26-27 November 2018, in Celje, the project aims to address the clinical mentor's lack in nursing education and develop the clinical mentor's competence with mentor education for national and international nursing students.



The project outputs

QualMent will develop Clinical mentors' competence model which will provide new knowledge and findings regarding the current situation of clinical mentoring in nursing study programmes in Europe.

The model will introduce most important concepts to be integrated into education of

clinical mentoring. It will be used as a base to prepare Course of advanced mentorship competences and Mentoring guidelines as another output of the project which will offer clear and simple instructions to be used in the daily clinical practice of mentoring.

By well-planned mentors' education, the project will provide high quality structure of clinical mentoring practice and empower nurses serving as careers and educators for student nurses. This course will empower clinical mentors with high-quality skills and competences needed to perform their role and at the same time fill the gap, as there is no systematic approach in developing and implementing the quality courses offering mentors' competences to the nurses in clinical environment in EU.

General Care Nurses' Competencies – Directive 2013/55/EU

All undergraduate nursing study programmes in the nursing field must be developed according to the EU [Directive 2005/36/EC](#) amended by [Directive 2013/55/EU](#), and European the EFN Competency Framework, which demands that the half of all contacts hours of each study programme are done in the clinical environments as clinical practice and

mentored by the clinical mentors. Clinical practice is becoming a key environment for strengthening clinical competence (DIR55), as through the analysis of the quality of nursing care, the nurses improve their work.

Clinical mentor's education is greatly lacking in nursing education and the unified mentors' education program would be of a great need. The quality mentoring has significant effect upon student learning outcomes with great influence upon novice professionals' intention to stay in the profession after graduation, also increases satisfaction in professional growth and identification with the nursing role.

EFN Competency Framework



Next to the provisions included in the Directive 55, the [EFN Competency Framework](#) provides national governments with an additional

guidance to implement the competences listed under Article 31 of the Directive.

To this purpose, the EFN members adopted in April 2015 the EFN Competency Framework which describes the competences required to nurses responsible for general care, aiming at being used by the National Nurses Associations to encourage and guide the nursing schools at national level to be compliant with Directive 55.

QualMent partners

College of Nursing in Celje (Slovenia)



The [College of Nursing in Celje](#) is a relatively young HE institution, founded in 2009, that performs 3-year professional study programme of the first-degree Nursing Care

and 2-year master study programme in Palliative Care. The College of Nursing in Celje serves the community as a higher education centre that encourages, expands and uses professional knowledge in the field of nursing and other health-related sciences, and it encourages life-long learning activities and initiatives. The experiences of the College of Nursing in Celje (Slovenia) gained in the cooperation in the international projects can guarantee the successful project development and implementation.

The College of Nursing in Celje is the project coordinator, represented by Dr Boris Miha Kaučič, and Jerneja Meža.

University of Oulu (Finland)



The [Research Unit of Nursing Science and Health Management](#) is part of the [Faculty of Medicine at the University of Oulu](#), which is an essential part of the Life Sciences Campus Kontinkangas. The Research Unit of Nursing Science and Health Management provides this project with expertise in the field of health sciences in development of mentors' competence in mentoring national and international healthcare students in clinical learning environments. The unit actively publishes high quality scientific publications in educational research and currently leads and collaborates in national and international educational projects with funding worth over 1 million euros. The unit was awarded a certificate of honour by the Ministry of Education and Culture in Finland for use of an innovation development approach in an educational project.

The partner is represented by Dr. Kristina Mikkonen, Dr. Marco Tomietto, Ashlee Oikarainen, Prof. Dr. Maria Kääriäinen.

Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (Lithuania)



LIETUVOS SVEIKATOS
MOKSLŲ UNIVERSITETAS

[Lithuanian University of Health Sciences](#) is one of the best and the largest institutions of higher education for biomedical sciences not only in Lithuania but also in the Baltic States with almost 100 years of academic experience successfully integrates studies (both in biomedicine and agriculture), research and clinical practice. The Nursing and care department will bring to this project expertise in clinical education of students, including development and implementation of continuing professional development courses for clinical nurses, preparation of teaching materials for students and mentors, distributing of scientific results.

The partner is represented by prof. Olga Riklikienė.

University of Alicante (Spain)



Universitat d'Alacant
Universidad de Alicante

The [University of Alicante](#) (UA), was created in 1979. Today it educates more than 20,000 students – plus 3,000 internationals- and offers 43 undergraduate and 80 postgraduate programmes: consequently, it is proportionally one of the fastest growing universities in Spain. It is also an appreciated reference point for international relations. Regarding its participation in Framework Programmes (FP), UA has taken part in 25 FP5, 24 FP6 and 48 FP7 projects (13 of them coordinated by UA) and, nowadays 16 projects in H2020 (2 coordinated). About ERASMUS+ programme, UA has been

involved in more the 40 projects, acting as coordinator in 21 of them.

The partner is represented by Dr. María Flores Vizcaya Moreno, and Dr. Rosa M Pérez-Cañaveras.

European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN)



Established in 1971 and representing 36 National Nurses Associations (professional associations - regulators - unions), the [European Federation of Nurses Associations](#) (EFN) work has an effect on the daily work of 6 million nurses throughout the European Union and Europe. Its mission is to strengthen the status and practice of the profession of nursing for the benefit of the health of the citizens and the interests of nurses in the EU & Europe by lobbying the EU Institutions on EU pipeline legislation linked to EFN political agenda topics: Education, Workforce, and Quality & Safety.

The partner is represented by Dr Paul De Raeve.

Upcoming meetings

4-5 April 2019 – 2nd Transnational meeting in Oulu, Finland. The meeting will focus on the implementation the 2nd phase of the project: syllabuses preparation and the content of the Course of advance mentorship competences (IO2).