Although psychosocial interventions are receiving increased validation, actions to translate evidence into practice are inconsistent thus contributing to poor quality support and care for people with dementia and their carers.

SIDEcar is an Erasmus+ project (2018-2021) aimed to promote the psychosocial knowledge in academic, professional and public policy fields.

**TEAM PROJECT**

**UNIVERSITY DI BOLOGNA**

**MAASTRICHT UNIVERSITY**

**UNIVERSIDAD DE SALAMANCA**

**INSTITUT POKROK U JEDEDEJÍN**

**Fundación Carlos III**

**Alzheimer Centrum Limburg, Maastricht University, Netherlands**

**Institute for Postgraduate Medical Education, Charles University Faculty of Humanities, Czech Republic**

**Psycho-sciences Research Group of IBSAL, Salamanca University, Spain**

**OBJECTIVE**

To identify to what EXTENT and in which MODALITIES psychosocial care in dementia is delivered to EU HE students.

**RESULTS**

**STUDY PROGRAMMES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAMME</th>
<th>QUANTITATIVE: 261 inputs (13 survey, 2/3 manual search)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>III cycle</td>
<td>cycle 52.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II cycle</td>
<td>cycle 41.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COURSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>64.5%</th>
<th>MODULES</th>
<th>11.0%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOPICS</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THEORETICAL INPUTS</th>
<th>PRACTICAL INPUTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>19.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HEALTH-RELATED TOPICS**

| 23.3% |

**AGING**

17.4%

| ECTS: 13.8 (sd: 19.41; n=150) |
| HOURS: 35.1 (sd: 21.6; n=31) |

**DISCUSSION**

- **QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS**
  - Dementia teachings were mainly Post-Graduate COURSES, REQUIRED and TRADITIONALLY delivered.
  - Dementia teachings were delivered within many degrees (Medicine, Psychology, Social Science etc.). Teachings whose titles indicated that psychosocial care in dementia was the main topic were few. The rest of them presented many different titles. A very small number of them were featured with specific pharmacological and medical concerns or indicated the care-recipient. The knowledge on psychosocial care in dementia is provided in scattered manners and is mainly based on lecturers’ individual expertise and sensibility.

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**OBJECTIVE**

To analyse EU strategies and action plans to check WHETHER and HOW the topic of psychosocial care is treated. The AMOUNT and CONTENT of information along with its COHERENCE with scientific evidence were investigated.

**RESULTS**

- **WAYS OF PSYCHOSOCIAL INTERVENTIONS DELIVERY**
  - Pillars: Quality of Care and Education/Training
  - Psychosocial interventions were just MENTIONED as an appropriate care in 4 countries. Instead, in the remaining country policies some information was provided and it was classified as:
  - Most of the information on types of interventions, professional and services involved was found and, if available, it was not in line with scientific evidence.

**DISCUSSION**

- **WAYS OF PSYCHOSOCIAL INTERVENTIONS DELIVERY**
  - Overall, across all policy documents, it was unspecified how to provide psychosocial care and interventions thus leading to a scenario of high fragmentation, incompleteness and low systematization in the definition of dementia policies across Europe.
  - In 10 out of 28 documents no mention of psychosocial care was even found, and references were limited to medical treatment. For what concerns the remaining policies, it is still unclear what such provision would actually look like, how it would be enabled, and how it would be assessed.

**CONCLUSIONS**

To allow the translation of the existing empirical evidence in support of the use of psychosocial interventions thus improving the quality of dementia care, multiple and simultaneous actions are needed:

- **Systematized, Evidence-based and Well-designed Education and Training programmes** (according to ISCED suggestions, a good balance of theoretical and practical contents) (Ottoboni et al., 2020);
- **Policies should be based on a comprehensive and well-integrated system of care where the topic of psychosocial care and interventions is embedded** (Chirico et al., 2020);
- **Continuous Advances in Research**

**PROJECT OVERVIEW**

- **ACTIVITY 1: ANALYSIS OF EU HIGHER EDUCATION: STATE OF THE ART ON PSYCHOSOCIAL CARE IN DEMENTIA**
- **ACTIVITY 2: ANALYSIS OF EU DEMENTIA POLICY – STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS**
- **DEVELOPMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES / CURRICULA FOCUSED ON: PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA - INFORMAL CARERS - FORMAL CARERS**
- **DEVELOPMENT OF MANUALS, GUIDELINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS**