



Social inclusion through Meaningful ageing

Results of European Stakeholder Survey Educational for SEE ME Model

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Results European Stakeholder Survey

Educational Model SEE ME

In order to cross-validate the educational model of SEE ME an online survey has been conducted among European caregivers and professionals in elderly care throughout Europe. The consortium partners and the associated partners of the European SEE ME project have asked these caregivers and professionals in elderly care to fill in the survey. The main topic addressed in this survey focuses on the contents and learning process of training for caregivers in elderly care. Finally, 154 caregivers and professionals in elderly care have filled in the European stakeholder survey.

According to [table 1](#) most of the involved organisations were nursing homes / care homes for older people, welfare organizations or health care organizations. Besides lots of respondents have a job as a professional caregiver, volunteer or manager ([see table 2](#)). Furthermore, [table 3](#) shows that respondents working in all 5 different countries of the consortium have filled in the European stakeholder survey, to mention: Belgium, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands and Spain.

Table 1: Involved types of organisations of respondents (N = 154)

Kind of organisation	Number of responses (in %)
Nursing home / care home for older people	24.0
Health care organization	12.3
Home care organization	9.1
Welfare organization	14.9
Local or regional authority / policy maker	9.7
Other	27.3
Missing value	2.6

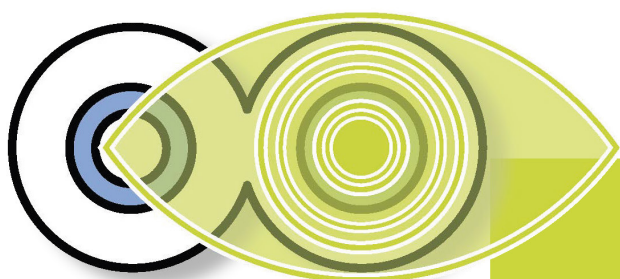
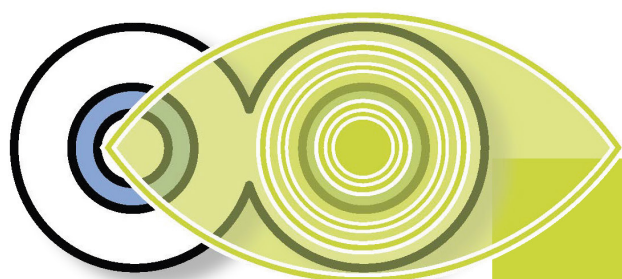


Table 2: Involved occupations of respondents (N = 154)

Kind of occupation	Number of responses (in %)
Manager	11.7
Professional caregiver	24.0
Informal caregiver	1.3
Volunteer	18.8
Member of the staff working in a health care organization	4.5
Other	36.4
Missing value	3.2

Table 3: Involved countries of respondents (N = 154)

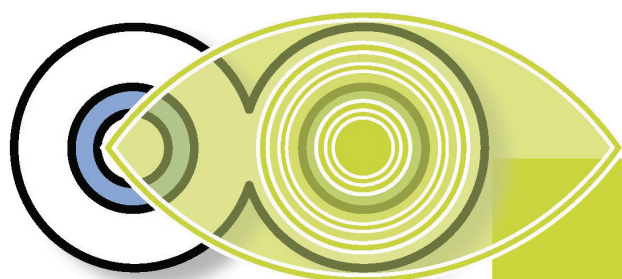
Country	Number of responses (in %)
Belgium	6.5
Germany	11,7
Italy	44.2
Spain	16.2
The Netherlands	21.4



According to [table 4](#) it seems to be most important to practice skills (circa 17%), to develop an action plan to improve daily work (circa 16%) and to share ideas with other colleagues (circa 16%) during training for caregivers in elderly care. This means that the improvement of daily work and the realisation of being a competent caregiver seems to be the most important element in addition to getting ideas for this daily work.

Table 4: Most important activity during work related training (N = 444)

	Number of responses (in %)
To practice skills	16.9
To develop an action plan to improve my daily work	16.2
To share ideas with other colleagues	15.8
To learn new knowledge	15.1
To learn about new methodologies in care to older adults	14.6
To learn about good practices from other European organizations in care	10.8
To reflect on my own skills and competencies	10.4
Other	0.2

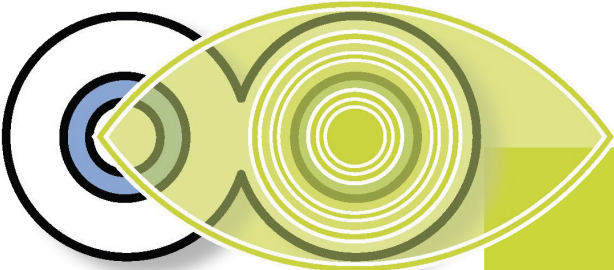


According to *table 5* concerning the contents of the training it seems be important to learn about the development of new activities and new activation strategies for older people (circa 18%). Besides most of the respondents point out that it seems to be important to learn about new perspectives of care and on older people (circa 14% versus 12%).

Table 5: Most important contents during work related training (N = 442)

	Number of responses (in %)
To learn about the development of new activities for older people	18.3
To learn about new activation strategies for older people	17.6
To learn about new perspectives of care	13.6
To learn about new perspectives on older people	12.0
To learn about how to communicate with older people	10.4
To learn about the care system	10.2
To learn about how to give feedback to other colleagues	6.6
To learn about medical care and nursing practice	5.4
To learn about time management in daily work	4.8
Other	1.1

For all involved countries an analysis has been done concerning the open question focussing on what caregivers would like to learn and seems interesting to them concerning meaningful life and meaningful ageing.



Belgium: Answers of Belgian respondents

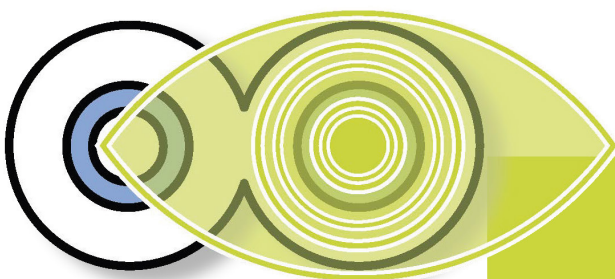
Caregivers working with older adults indicated preferring a training on meaningful ageing, about respect in care, and more specifically about treating older adults with respect. Too often, older adults are not treated with dignity. In addition, the themes where caregivers would like to engage in are focused on those who are unable to express themselves. For example, how should someone deal with older adults in a meaningful way when they show signs of dementia or when people are no longer able to clarify what they consider important themselves? Caregivers would like to know how to offer someone a meaningful daytime activity where they have the feeling that, despite their advanced age, older adults can still be of value to society and that they are not a burden. They also want to know how to put this new, adapted view of care, into practice.

Germany: Answers of German respondents

For the German participants, there is a major interest in learning about activating strategies as well as focusing on the resources, abilities, talents and wishes of the residents, for example through biographical work. Furthermore, the handling and use of language with seniors suffering from dementia is also mentioned explicitly. Participants are also interested in the extensive discussion of death and dying. Additionally, the work within the community and social spaces as well as alternative housing concepts should be considered within the framework of the qualification. Regarding the work of the caregivers themselves, there is a desire to learn about possibilities for easing the work. In addition, fundamental questions are mentioned: a discourse on a renewed understanding of care and the framework conditions of care and, not least, the questions: "Who defines what meaningful ageing is? What does this mean for the people themselves?"

Italy: Answers of Italian respondents

From the answers to the open question emerged the need to consider the centrality of "Person" with his/her needs and resources; with reference to the latter, the emphasis is on the immaterial ones (e.g. the relations and the role in the family, the contribution that can be given to the society). An example of meaningful aging (this particular concept was mostly stressed) is the role they provide as "maestri di vita" (life examples): in such a role, they are able to transfer skills that are useful to face the daily challenges and life experiences that can be used as examples, even in the learning paths. The strategy that has been mentioned in the answers is that of the "teatro dei ricordi" (the memory theatre) based on life histories that are used to take out those "good" emotions that give meaning to aging.



On the side of the operators, emerges the need to use innovative working strategies that take advantage of the co-creative element. The co-creative element is fundamental in networking, where every actor has an active role in a team that originates from the specific context and is therefore made of operators, families and older people.

Spain: Answers of Spanish respondents

The results of the Spanish responses to the last question of the European Stakeholder Survey are quite diverse and reflect different interests. The more mentioned topics are active ageing and human relationships, specifying in some cases the relevance of communication, and how to communicate better with the team as well as with older adults. Moreover, they asked for training in social and emotional skills and tools, such as setting conversations, approaching older adults and promoting teamwork reciprocity and creating value. Other relevant topics are social integration of older adults, fighting ageism, empowering, followed by intergenerational relationships, communication with people living with cognitive decline, person centred care and including gender perspective. Finally, some other new things that people would like to find and achieve with the training are visibility and relationship with other organisations working with older adults, self-development, practicing the learnt with older adults and how to accompany people across their life project, considering the perspective of older people regarding a meaningful life and ageing.

The Netherlands: Answers of Dutch respondents

According to the results most of the Dutch respondents would like to learn more concerning how to decrease the rate of social isolation among older people and how to activate them or increase their (social) network. Besides, some of the Dutch respondents think it seems to be interesting to learn how to create a meaningful day for these older people. Also, some of the respondents think it seems to be interesting to focus on the older persons themselves and would like to create a new vision, a vision on active ageing and a way to see the human behind the older person. Furthermore, diseases and how to approach older people with dementia seems to be of interest. Finally, communication and interaction with older people and to be of significance for them seems to be interesting to some of the respondents. For the results see [table 6](#).

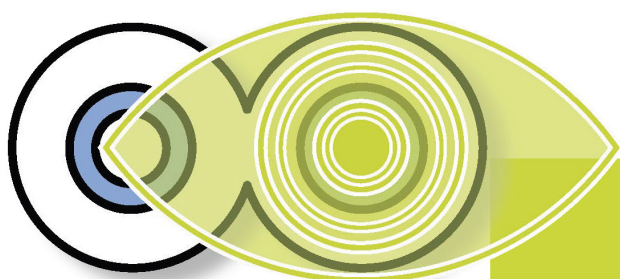
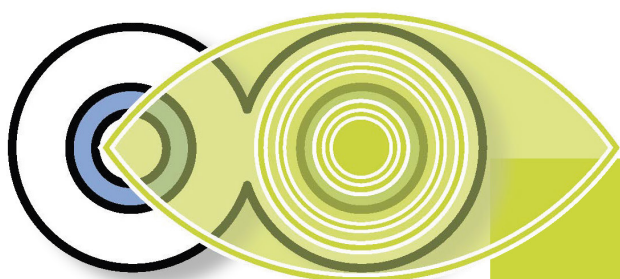


Table 6: Answers of Dutch respondents (N = 38 answers of 30 respondents)

Category	Number of responses (in %)
Social inclusion - activation - network	26.3
Meaningfulness	18.4
See humans behind older persons - new vision - active ageing	15.8
Needs of older persons	10.5
Diseases	7.9
Dementia: Methods in approaching these persons	7.9
Communication and interaction with older persons	7.9
To be of significance for older people	5.3





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