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# **ELDICARE**

## **Matching Skills in a Growing European Silver Economy**

Project Ref: 601115-EPP-1-2018-EL-EPPKA2-SSA

**Eldicare - Newsletter March 2021**

## Editorial

During the last months of the Eldicare's implementation, and once the VET curricula and supporting materials have been designed and developed, the Eldicare Consortium has been mainly involved **in the certification of the curricula** and the **organization and implementation of a piloting programme**, in order to test and refine the training material.

More specifically, under the guidance of the Accreditation, Certification and Quality Assurance Institute (ACQUIN), the training programmes were reviewed in terms of quality – for the 1st time within an Erasmus+ project - by an Expert Committee and received international cross-border certification based on the **European Quality Assurance Framework** for higher education and vocational training (EQF, ESG, EQAVET, EQARF). The international certification seal is recognition at EU-level standing for the quality of the training programs:

- responding to the **demand for tech-literate elderly care professionals** with the capacity to learn, use and evaluate online tools and e-health applications;
- improving **access to lifelong learning e-platforms**, mainstreaming equal opportunities and inclusion into training;
- increasing **transparency and recognition of qualifications** by introducing robust quality assurance mechanisms and clear guidelines for accreditation;
- **fostering employability of young people** in the ageing sector, providing adequate tools that will better their working conditions.

Concerning the piloting programme, AKMI S.A. has been in charge of overseeing the piloting phase in each participating country, namely in the UK, Germany, Spain, and Greece, involving the country VET provider and the sectoral partner. Although each curriculum was designed to be delivered through both face-to-face and online learning, due to COVID-19 restrictions to the partner countries, our pilots took place only virtually, through our Eldicare e-learning platform: <https://learning.eldicare.eu/>,

designed and developed by Skybridge Partners. So far, **approximately 130 people have been registered in the platform and participated in our online training.**



Moreover, as part of the piloting, the programmes are accompanied by a **Work Based Learning (WBL) Scheme, adapted to the pandemic, for Ageing CareGivers**, that is going to provide the necessary linkage between VET Training and Actual Work. The WBL is currently being implemented mainly virtually, through case studies and webinars, while in some cases, part of the WBL has been implemented as a one-full-day practical seminar. Within the two last months of Eldicare implementation,

our final steps for the piloting, are:

- Completion of the Work-Based Learning in all the partner countries;
- Collection of feedback from the participants and fine-tuning of the training material.

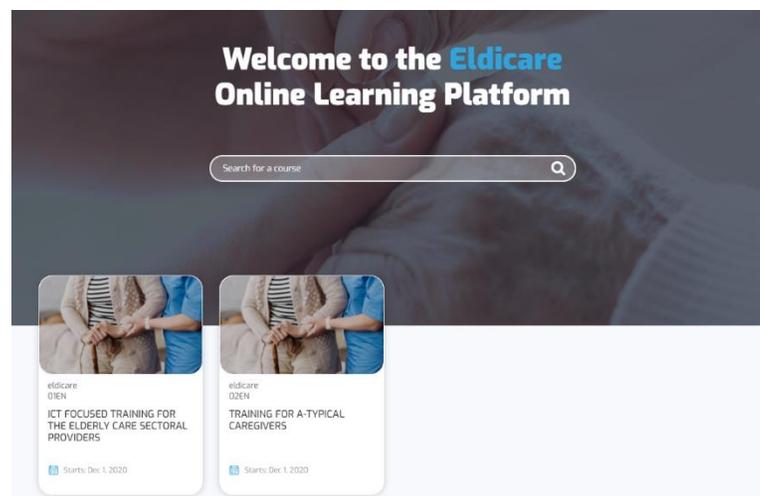


## Online platform and Eldicare courses

The Eldicare training programme consists of two curricula:

1. A-typical Elderly Care Givers (EQF Level 4), and
2. Elderly Care Sectoral Providers (EQF Level 5).

The Consortium of the Eldicare Project has developed the training material of both Courses and Skybridge Partners has developed the online Training Platform. The learning platform used for the purpose of the Eldicare Online Training is based on an open-source technology, focusing on learning easier and faster. The online platform is designed to engage students and teachers in an interactive and modular manner, while it is tailored to the personalized training needs of our learners.



Finally, our courses are based on the relatively new – microlearning concept. That is to say that the educational content was broken down into bite-sized pieces of learning material. Thus, our courses are structured in a modular manner, organized in sections (Weeks and Modules) and subsections (lessons).

## Eldicare courses

### Training for A-typical Elderly Care Givers



### Why should I attend?

Expand your knowledge and skills and benefit from a virtual learning community, consisting of atypical caregivers or by anyone who is interested upon the Course thematic fields.

Duration: 53 hours

The learning objectives of this curriculum are:

- To acquire basic knowledge of conditions, health and safety issues (triggering issues and symptoms);
- To familiarise with handling of information, ICT skills & basic administration systems (documentation and record keeping);
- To enhance communication, empathy & interaction in multicultural environments and between care givers and elderly people;
- To improve problem solving skills, as well as safeguarding & management of critical situations (learning to deal with grief and loss).



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## ICT Training for the Elderly Care Sectoral Providers



**ICT FOCUSED TRAINING FOR THE ELDERLY CARE  
SECTORAL PROVIDERS**

ELDICARE

This Course: "ICT FOCUSED TRAINING FOR THE ELDERLY CARE SECTORAL PROVIDERS" is certified by ACQUIN. ACQUIN is since 2003 a member of European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) and since 2009 registered in the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR)

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### Why should I attend?

Expand your knowledge and skills and benefit from a virtual learning community, consisting of professionals working in the elderly sector.

Duration: 46 hours

The learning objectives of this curriculum are:

- To familiarise learners with documents, code of conduct, & basic administration systems (documentation and record keeping);
- To familiarise learners with digital resources, ICT skills, information and data literacy;
- To enhance problem solving skills, as well as legal / data protection / financial issues.

Both Courses are certified by ACQUIN. ACQUIN is since 2003 a member of European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) and since 2009 registered in the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR).

The learning and assessment material is offered as Open Educational Resources under the [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International Licence](#).

### **Registration**

To participate in the courses, please register under: <https://learning.eldicare.eu>  
Contact: [EUSkybridge@groupinternational.org](mailto:EUSkybridge@groupinternational.org)

For any technical issues concerning the Online Training platform  
Contact: [eldicare@helpdesk@gmail.com](mailto:eldicare@helpdesk@gmail.com)

## Development of a psychometric tool for caregivers

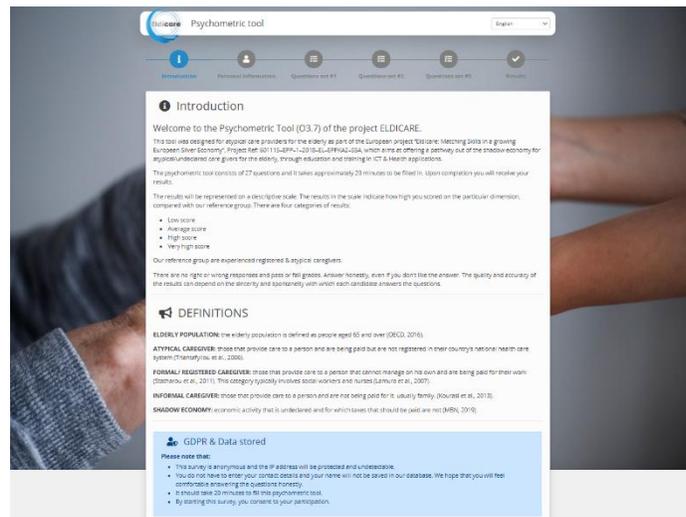
According to data provided by the European Commission regarding Health Systems (2016) up to 2050 there will be a rise in the elder population in Europe by 37%, with an increase of the total European population by 1.6%. Consequently, there will be a simultaneous rise in the employment of care workers/caregivers due to the decrease of the family members to provide their services to relatives without payment. In order to ensure mental skills for the provision of demanding care services to ageing population we established a psychometric tool for elderly care providers weighted and tested in Greece, Germany, Spain and the UK.

The methodology that was selected consisted of semi-structured interviews with the target group and experts, in order to explore their opinion on general themes surrounding the focus areas of the psychometric tool (face & content validity), the administration of the draft version of the psychometric tool to selected participants, the pilot implementation of the psychometric tool in 4 healthcare facilities and lastly the online sample collection for the statistical analysis of the psychometric tool (construct validity & reliability analysis).

For the purposes of the research, we interviewed 73 participants in the aforementioned countries, and we gathered a sample of 160 responses for the statistical analysis of the tool. The research resulted in the development of a psychometric tool for atypical caregivers of the elderly, consisting of 27 items and examining the following categories:

1. **BURDEN:** The impact of work difficulties in personal, social, and work life of a person.
2. **EMPATHY:** Emotional intelligence and especially empathy is a crucial factor for caregiving services.
3. **ANXIETY:** The stress levels of a personality and the impact in work environment. The ability to overcome stressful events not only in work, but also in personal life, creates the balance for taking the right decisions in order to overcome difficulties.
4. **PROFESSIONALISM:** The skills that a person needs to have, in order to adapt in work environment with the best way (discipline, organization, compliance, prioritization, etc).
5. **COPING:** Coping mechanisms reflect the resilience of a personality to overcome difficult situations.

The psychometric tool is **free** and available here: <https://psychometrictool.eldicare.eu/en>.





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## Invitation to our online conference

“THE EUROPEAN SILVER ECONOMY IN 2021: the case of Eldicare”

hosted by EVBB

On 29<sup>th</sup> of March, our [online Eldicare Platform](#) will be presented to the public, through our Online Conference, during which we will also have the opportunity to address other issues regarding the pandemic such as the **Consequences & Impact of covid-19** in the Elderly Care Sector, the **use of ICT in Elderly Care** and its ongoing increase, the **formal and the informal Caregiving Sectors**, and the **ongoing and upcoming policies** on Elderly Care.



### The confirmed Speakers of the event

- **Dubravka ŠUICA** – [Vice-President of the European Commission on Democracy & Demography](#) (video message)
- **Eva MAYDELL** – [Member of the European Parliament](#) & President of [European Movement International](#) (video message)
- **Claire CHAMPEIX** – Policy Officer, [Eurocarers](#)
- **Eva VAIOULI** – Project Manager, [AKMI S.A.](#)
- **Aad KOSTER** – 1st statutory Vice-president of [European Ageing Network](#)
- **Věra HUSÁKOVÁ** – Regional Director, [SeneCura](#) (Czech Republic)
- **Borja ARRUE-ASTRAIN** – Policy and Project Officer, [AGE platform](#)
- **Peter KEVERN** – Professor of Values in Health and Social Care, [Staffordshire University](#)

### Useful links

Registrations: <https://1url.cz/3KMtU>

Program Agenda: <https://1url.cz/fKtd4>

Conference page: <https://bit.ly/3qWh0ri>



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## Partners



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