

Title:Healthy Europe through Learning Practice (HELP)

Action: LEONARDO DA VINCI Transfer of innovation

Abstract: Doctors, nurses and public health workers in Europe have an influential role in addressing health concerns in public health, for example, to address growing levels of obesity and coronary disease. To date, there is no one European VET programme that provides training for doctors, nurses and public health workers in this area of public health, and this project aims to address that deficit. The aim of the project is to transfer an obesity and circulatory disease management Continuing Medical Education (CME) programme for doctors, nurses and public health workers, currently provided in the UK, and in collaboration with European partners develop it to incorporate the physical activity intervention evidence and recommendations from across Europe, and transfer this Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programme to become an accredited European training resource. This will be accessible online, for VET organisations, and doctors, nurses and public health workers, in the European Union.

This project will result in a web portal and the provision of two online downloadable training resources. Firstly, course material for trainers, ie, VET deliverers, and secondly, course material for learners (doctors, nurses and public health workers in Europe). This will enable the training to be either downloaded and delivered by a VET organisation, or by the learner independently, who could study for the accreditation 'in-service' ie, work based learning. There is, therefore, the capacity to develop a well trained and knowledgeable European health professional workforce through the transfer of this product. In doing so it helps to address the calls for a more coordinated approach to VET across Europe in the medical profession (Sanders, 2010).

The Consortium developed to implement the proposal consists of HEI's involved in VET design and delivery, from Romania, Czech Republic, Spain, Germany, Portugal and UK, a VET organisation from UK and an IT industry based SME from Portugal. Partners are involved through a common desire to have a resource they can use, which complements their existing VET related services.

Tangible outcomes will include:

- An accredited European training resource (course material for trainers and learners) accessible online, for VET organisations, and doctors, nurses and public health workers throughout the European Union (available and downloadable in English, Spanish, German, Czech, Portuguese, Romanian).
- A web portal designated to the project and where materials can be accessed and downloaded.

Intangible outcomes will include:

- The capacity to develop a well trained and knowledgeable European health professional workforce in the area of obesity and circulatory disease management.

The envisaged impact from this proposal is twofold and symbiotic; it is the unique provision of an accredited European training resource which will result in a more competent, knowledgeable, better trained, and coordinated medical workforce across Europe.