

CARE4U PLATFORM. SUCCESSFUL TESTING AND VALIDATION OF THE CARE4U TOOL/ PLATFORM

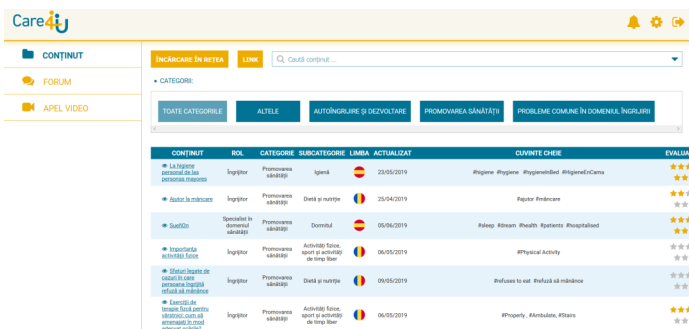
ABOUT THE PROJECT

CARE4U provides innovative approaches based on practice (better than theory) through an online learning tool with different functionalities offering the opportunity of learning at any moment. Partners from 4 European countries are collaborating to develop innovative approaches within the CARE4U project, funded with the support of the European Commission within the Erasmus+ KA2 Strategic Partnership programme.



CARE4U PLATFORM

Care4U Platform is a complete tool based on a web application developed for the exchange of information



among health professionals and caregivers. It is envisaged as a means for acquiring knowledge adapted to their needs in the tasks of home care services regarding health protocols and best practices. CARE4U offers a participatory method supported by ICT-based methodologies, using an online learning tool which offers different alternatives for the exchange:

- Content upload: Possibility of uploading content in the platform as a file or as a webpage URL. The content can be uploaded by a healthcare professional and consumed by both professionals and caregivers and this is the manner to guarantee the quality of the updated content.
 - Forum: Possibility for discussion about particular issues via forum. At this stage the idea is to allow the healthcare professional for launching a particular topic and caregivers can answer the threat for interacting with Q/A among them.
 - Webinars sessions: Possibility of planning webinars for solving doubts and provide health tips to caregivers. The webinars are organized by healthcare professionals and caregivers can interact via chat.
- Care4U provides the training and mutual learning on the topic, preparing better those who are already active as caregivers, allowing those who are unemployed to acquire skills which can help to open up a career in the care sector

at home. In consequence, the bank of knowledge that CARE4U owns, is currently focused on caregivers (non-experienced, unemployed or those who want to acquire new expertise).

CARE4U TESTING OUTCOMES

Once the Care4U tool/platform had been developed and populated with first (learning) materials - training/ learning available on the platform that could be used independently or as guidance material – it was tested by appr. 50 people from Austria, Romania, Spain and the UK (Northern Ireland). These first participants have experience from their occupational tasks as e.g. nurses, doctors, caregivers. Some other trial participants simply asked for help or support and went online to search for specific answers to giving care to elderly people.

During first phases, different technological platform/ tool prototypes were developed for sample groups of our target audience's validation as well as for our consortium organisations. Then, the platform was opened to public to receive valuable input and to enrich first contents provided at the platform. Feedback at this stage – collated during talks and online by questionnaires – have been used to improve and finalise the platform for an even wider user number.

Most importantly, the Care4U has shown to provide caregivers training and mutual learning material, help improve knowledge and access to practice according to their needs. It has been evaluated as a good networking

and support tool for general public interested in care giving for their elder family members.

If you are interested in the Care4U tool and material, you can simply read about Promoting Health or Self-care and development e.g. or network and contact (other) professionals online by simply registering on:

<https://care4u.hi-iberia.es:4533/>.

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<http://care4u-project.eu>

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