



The **G**randis project - aiming to develop education and training material that will help older adults use technology to improve their lives when living in the community - has completed the first stage, the aim of which was to **survey and compare the situations** in four European countries, the **UK, Ireland, France, and Hungary**, to determine the role of technology in older adults' care and the accompanying vocational education and training required.

A **desktop survey** by each partner produced four **national reports** on the social care policy and legislation in each country, the vocational education and training they have for social care workers, the increasing demand through population ageing, the existing types of technologies supporting this demand, and gaps to be addressed in the current curricula for training carers. This was followed by a questionnaire that investigated the needs, abilities, and attitudes of older adults living at home with a view to determining the roles of technology in their current and future care.

The country reports included a section on the technologies in use or available for helping support older adults at home. The number of companies and the sophistication of sensor devices and accompanying software show that the **time is ripe for exploiting technology in healthcare** and helping older adults remain at home where they would rather be.

The GGrandis survey of over 500 older adults across the four partner countries concluded that the **older adults** themselves are more than ready to rise to the challenge of adopting new technology.

The **online survey** showed that older adults are happy to use technology for engaging with their carers and health services. This includes consultations, getting results of tests, and alerting services to emergencies. They also see the benefit of new technology for helping offset increasing loneliness as they get older and it becomes harder to socialise.

IN CONCLUSION, the GGrandis desktop research and online surveys have unequivocally exposed a **need for new technology** to help care for older adults at home and a willingness of older adults to engage with that new technology in their care. The existing education and training courses in all countries lack a proper focus on this newer approach, with very little explicit material on the effects of demographic change and how technology can be used to offset them. **Carers need to know how to use the technologies** and how to train older adults to use them, neither of which are currently covered appropriately in existing courses. GGrandis has highlighted the **need for new material in these areas** and provided a compelling rationale for how it will improve the ability of carers to look after older adults effectively in their own homes.

PROJECT INFORMATION

GRANDIS XXI. project aims to develop a **competence-based, modular training programme** for formal and informal caregivers. It will empower them with advanced health literacy and tailored digital competencies, with special ICT skills in using eHealth technologies like smart devices, social alarms, wristbands, and special tele-diagnostic tools installed in the home. They will be able to manage, mentor and facilitate activities of elderly people in virtual communities through using ICT-based communication and online learning tools.



TARGET GROUPS

- students of vocational education
- formal caregivers, care workers
- informal caregivers involved in the long-term-care of their relatives
- „young” elderly people retired from related professions (e.g. teachers), who are interested in working as informal caregivers in online communities

PROJECT BASIC

- **Title:** GRANDIS XXI. – Vocational education for interprofessional elderly care in the 21st century
- **Grant agreement no.:** 2016-1-HU01-KA202-023044
- **Duration:** 1 October 2016 – 31 March 2019
- **Programme:** ERASMUS+
- **Participating countries:** Hungary, Ireland, United Kingdom, France, Spain
- **Website:** <http://grandis.prompt.hu>

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