

DiaSHOE: Improving the quality of life of diabetic foot patients

The Erasmus+ DiaSHOE project implemented by partners from six countries (Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, Poland, Portugal and Spain) has reached its objectives and is officially ending today. Since the start in October 2020, the partners have endeavoured to improving the knowledge of different target groups surrounding diabetics patients on Diabetic Foot Control, developing digital competences and curricula in a learning context, and advancing on Research and Development.

In the framework of the project, the partners have developed three different sets of Digital Education Packages respectively targeting Diabetic Foot Control designers, footwear technicians and product managers, health technicians and shoe shop employees and finally diabetic patients, their families, informal caregivers as well as school teachers and educators. The learning material has been validated by the respective target groups, who gave very positive feedback. Indeed, participants from the three groups acknowledged that the Digital Education Packages helped them understand how footwear can help prevent complications in diabetic feet, learn how to take better care of diabetic feet, choose appropriate footwear and footwear-related product that can improve comfort. Moreover, they also indicated that they would recommend the Digital Education Packages to designers and footwear technicians, people concerned by the Diabetic Foot Syndrome, whether they are patients, health professionals, teachers or even students.

The multiplier events organised by each of the partners in their respective countries with the different target groups also gave them the opportunity to raise awareness and educate on the diabetic foot in order for patients to adopt a preventive approach. Indeed, in the discussions podiatrists asserted that when diabetics patients visit them, it is already too late, and the foot damage is irreversible. It is therefore important of being aware of the potential risk, taking good care of diabetic foot as well as using the appropriate footwear to prevent from complications.

The consortium is very content with all the project results and the positive feedbacks they received over the past months. They truly hope that their work and effort can help raising further awareness and education about the Diabetic Foot Syndrome, and contributing improving the quality of life of diabetic patients.

The Erasmus+ DiaSHOE project is completed, but now the opportunity starts for the different target groups, who have the opportunity to access the three different Digital Education Packages via the project <u>website</u>, in which they can also find relevant articles and news, available as well on social media (Facebook and LinkedIn).



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