

TRANSFORMING TRANSNATIONAL INTERCULTURAL SENSITIVITY FOR MIDWIFERY STUDENTS THROUGH AN INCLUSIVE MOBILITY MODEL – TOTEMM

Project Aim

The aim of the TOTEMM project is to promote equity, social inclusion and participation of non-mobile midwifery students studying in England, Italy, Estonia and the Netherlands through the creation and implementation of a new inclusive mobility model based on a combination of virtual and physical mobility activities. A secondary aim is to investigate if the combination of virtual and physical mobility activities can develop intercultural sensitivity.

Participants

Fifteen midwifery educators and 16 midwifery students will be contributing to the development of one European midwifery introductory e-learning package and four virtual mobility e-learning packages on public health. Two technicians from the University of Nottingham Health and E-Learning Media (HELM) team will support the creation of the digitally innovative e-learning packages. Two intensive study programmes will be held with midwifery students and academics to provide them with the required knowledge about the public health topics and innovative technologies to be used in the development of the project. The virtual mobility e-learning packages will be tested with 16 midwifery students before they are implemented as part of the project. Twenty midwifery students from each country will participate in the virtual and physical mobility exchange activities (n=80), with one midwifery educator hosting the students travelling to each partner. Consultations with an advisory group of 7 people with relevant expertise will be undertaken throughout the project. 160 participants will be invited to two multiplier events (final dissemination conferences).

Expected Impact and Long-Term Benefits

Midwifery students involved in the development, review and testing of the learning packages will gain significant benefits including stimulating creativity, improving team working skills, increasing knowledge of inter-cultural midwifery-related topics and showing personal and professional development by contributing to the creation of innovative higher education virtual learning resources in collaboration with international academics and IT technicians. The transnational collaborative context of the project will provide midwifery academics involved in the project with new perspectives on a) new ways of working with European colleagues b) achieving shared goals and delivering outputs as part of a big scale project; c) developing innovative thinking and creativity. A long-term collaboration with partner institutions from different European regions will be established by the TOTEMM study. A new model for midwifery student mobility and reusable open access e-learning resources will be made available to use by other higher education institutions, educators and students.

STUDENTS FIRST Physical Mobility Exchange at the University of Nottingham 2019



Students midwives of the first Transnational Meeting at the University of Nottingham 2. of December - 6. of December.

On behalf of the TOTEMM-project, a colleague and I went to Nottingham. During the intensive-learning program we both have had inspiring presentations on topic regarding public health such as smoking during pregnancy and domestic violence. These presentations got me tremendously enthusiastic about the e-learning being developed. I believe that it is beneficial to address these problems with other students from different countries to get an insight in their perspectives. Besides attending the aforementioned programs, us students have wandered around town every day for sightseeing. We have been to the Christmas fair and, obviously, we ate fish and chips!

Danique Brandsma, student Midwifery Academy Amsterdam-Groningen

The TOTEMM-project is amazing to take part in as a student, it is innovative and crosses borders of both countries and individuals. TOTEMM gave me insight into birth care given in countries other than the Netherlands, including the UK, Italy and Estonia. These new perspectives created a nuance in the way I think about the care we provide at home. The project itself focuses on urgent Public Health topics by means of e-learning, a combination of two important matters. Our group of eight students had a large say in the decisions that were made and above all we had a really great time: Ice skating on a Christmas Market and going to a pub afterwards is never a bad idea.

Marjoleine Baaij, student Midwifery Academy Amsterdam-Groningen

STUDENTS FIRST Physical Mobility Exchange

I can say that being a participant in the project as a midwifery student will increase the confidence, develop language, communication and knowledge of the public health role of the midwife and teamwork skills. I also believe that the combination of virtual and physical mobility can develop intercultural sensitivity. I think that this is great that the project involves midwifery students, because students can get new knowledge from the experts and they can discuss and listen to the ideas of the students. My opinion is that students, midwives and technicians together can compile more effective study material than the experts alone.

*TOTEMM project is a really motivating, challenging, educating and eye-opening experience for a midwifery students! **Marleen Rooveer, student Tallinn Health Care College.***

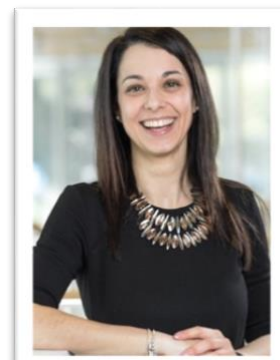
PROJECT TEAM, LEAD INSTITUTION - The University of Nottingham



Louise Walker,
Associate Professor in Midwifery



Helen Spiby,
Professor in Midwifery



Sara Borelli,
Assistant professor in Midwifery

PROJECT TEAM - AVAG Midwifery Academy Amsterdam Groningen



Maria van Oost,
RM, MSc, Lecturer



Anne-Marika Smit,
RM, MSc, Senior Lecturer

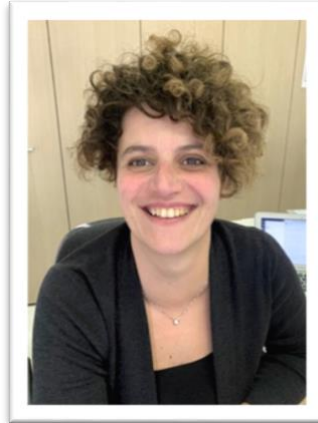


Karin Falkenhagen,
MA, Assistant of the Head of
Department at AVAG

PROJECT TEAM - The University of Milan-Bicocca



Antonella Nespoli,
RM, PhD, Lecturer



Simona Fumagalli,
RM, PhD, Lecturer

PROJECT TEAM - Tallinn Health Care College



Silja Mets-Oja,
RM, RN, MA, PhD student,
Head of Health Education Centre,
Lecturer



Annely Kärema,
RM, MSc, Lecturer

What we have done so far:

First six months of the project, from September 2019- 29th February 2020.

This period has included a considerable amount of set up activity that is still continuing. A very sound start has been made to consolidating linkages within the collaboration, involving midwifery students; establishing management and working systems, sharing expertise between project partners and identifying the subjects for the four midwifery public health e-learning packages. An exercise to map public health content across partners' curricula has been synthesized in to a short summary report. This activity provides the platform from which the new e-learning products will build and identifies the framework within which they must articulate.

The baseline survey has been developed that will enable mapping of factors that influence midwifery students views on physical mobility and that will inform the development of the e learning package.

A webpage is being established, conference abstracts have been submitted from each partner, Output 1 and Output 2 are in progress.

Professor Helen Spiby,
with contributions from the HELM team and all partners

