

JOINING WITH THE PREP-PROJECT

In preparation for this final event, we can say that we are very happy that this will happen together with the PREP project. The Physiotherapy and Refugees Education Project (PREP) addresses the mismatch between the competence of physiotherapists and the complex rehabilitation needs of a growing population of refugees and migrants in Europe. There is a lack of common strategies to address challenges of migration which has negative implications for health.

TC Nurse finds common concern for minority groups and refugees, and by sharing our outcomes, we hope to provide a strong narrative about the gap in the competences of health care professionals, including nurses and physiotherapists, in order to start meeting these complex needs head on.

<https://prosjekt.hvl.no/prep/>



Dear reader,

Like the rest of the world, the TC-Nurse project has been touched by the pandemic, which has had serious consequences for the implementation of the project due to the limitations imposed on international collaboration and travel.

Meetings were completely held in the digital realm, intensive programs for students became an online challenge requiring a major shift from both teachers and students: from using learning materials and engaging socially to enriching cultural competencies, things were quite different from behind your computer screen.

This is all the more true in the world of caregivers where warm and constant contact is a must in order to use and develop your professional and personal competencies. Care-development through screens, communication through masks, life without hugs or a comforting hand are just some of the many and complex challenges that the project has had to confront.

And yet none of these difficulties have stopped the project, which has continued to be driven foster international collaboration: TC Nurse has found a way to contribute to addressing meaningful challenges in the world of competency-development for caregivers and educators.

With great care, the Intensive Program and meetings were prepared to be held digitally, and the shift to virtual spaces also gained momentum and came to be seen as an opportunity. Whereas we had hoped to present a digitally designed module at the end of the project, we could and did start working on that digital version of the Intensive Program as early as year 2. And it was a challenge!

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Imagine, a fire alarm in one of the universities on the first day of the Intensive Program, which forced some teachers away from leading their lessons for a time. Or take a more mundane but meaning difficulty: students taking classes from different time zones led to the cultural challenge of agreeing on a time for lunch break that satisfied the cultural customs of each country. But also having lessons online at a distance brought to the surface the cultural differences in styles of teaching and learning. The world behind the screen was equally, if not more, challenging for both students and teachers.

We learned a lot, and are ready for the last challenge of organizing the third and final Intensive Program. Things, of course, are still somewhat in the air: depending on the measures in the participating countries, the event will be fully or partially digital. In addition, at the end of this project we will organize a Final Event to share our acquired knowledge, to spread our experiences and to empower others to become interculturally competent in care giving and in teaching caregivers, focusing on the use of CLIL, language and taxonomy in doing so.

We hope you will join us for what promises to be an active, challenging meeting on June 24. Instead of us simply taking and explaining, it will truly be an exchange of experiences, insights, realizations and challenges for the future. We will avoid the temptation to read off PPTs and rather will involve you in our three-year adventure and hope to prepare you for the exciting field of education and care.

See you on June 24, 2021.

The TC-Nurse Team

The coronavirus (COVID-19) still holds the world in its grip.

As college universities, we are committed to our social responsibility, and all of us have thus taken necessary actions and precautions to help prevent and slow down the spread of the coronavirus.

By being proactive we can safeguard the health of our own students and staff, as well as the well-being of those with whom we interact - especially vulnerable groups.



The AP University College, Belgium has more than 15.000 students and 1.600 staff and can play an important part in turning the tide. Thus, we are committing to our social responsibility. By limiting our personal contacts (on campus) even more, we can help curb the further spread of the virus. Because the coronavirus, unfortunately, is very much still with us, on-campus activities are organized under strict preventive measures. Theoretical classes are taught digitally from a distance as much as possible, while practical lessons are, whenever possible, on campus. Art classes and athletics are organized according to sector guidelines. Internships & workplace learning continue according to sector guidelines and by mutual agreement between all parties involved.

For USJ, Spain, measures are also being taken for the nursing and other students during the COVID-19 pandemic. All students and teachers have to make sure that they adhere to all the recommended best practices, such as keeping 1.5 meters between chairs in all classrooms. It is compulsory to wear a mask in all University spaces. Students have been organized into groups that allow us to respect the newly adjusted capacity of each classroom. Students who are not attending classes face to face can synchronously follow all lessons online on Microsoft Teams. Practical classes for nursing internships are carried out in small groups. The nursing program never surpasses 16 people per classroom and FFP2 mask are provided if needed. Non-contact infrared thermometers and hand disinfectant gel machines have been placed at the entrances of all buildings. Information about COVID-19, measures and indications have been placed in corridors, elevators, classrooms and the doors of every classroom and office.

The COVID-restrictions in the different campuses of the project partners: How are we coping?

At Istanbul Aydin University in Turkey the following measures were taken for Nursing Students during the Covid 19 Pandemic. In accordance with the decision taken by Higher Education Council of Turkey, Istanbul Aydin University Senate decided to convert face-to-face learning into distance education since the Spring semester 2020. Online lessons for theoretical courses as well as online examinations are being held. Practical classes for nursing are supported by pre-recorded videos, case studies and other online visual aids. During early fall of 2020 when Covid-19 cases were low, students were accepted into classroom with prior reservation and maintaining a quota. HES codes on ID cards determining the health status of the individual are scanned and evaluated prior to School Campus entrance. Non-contact infrared thermometers, body disinfectant spray machines, hand disinfectants have been placed at all entrances. Reminders regarding obligation to wear a mask have been placed in corridors, elevators, offices and classrooms. Information about Covid 19, measures and other aspects are discussed with students during online classes and other platforms, such as seminars and webinars. Clinical applications and internships have been postponed until summer session of 2021. Covid-19 vaccination for intern students going to clinical practice in the spring period have been conducted. Orientation training has been provided by the university and university hospital on Covid-19 precautionary measures before clinical practice began.



TransCoCon

The IPP in Portugal is taking on the Covid situation as well. During the Covid 19 Pandemic, the Nursing Department of the School of Health of the Polytechnic of Portalegre maintained all the scheduled activities, and introduced some changes in their operation.

The Dean created a working group to monitor the situation and make daily reports to assess the epidemiological situation on the University Campus. This group was also responsible for the development of a Contingency Plan with standards and recommendations, which was disseminated to the entire academic community.

A circulation route was defined inside the School and protective measures were implemented such as alcohol gel usage and mandatory use of masks, telework, among

All theoretical classes were taught via Zoom online and practical classes were scheduled for face-to-face delivery in small groups and on different days of the week and at staged times, to avoid the crowding of students in the school premises. The IT Department developed its own evaluation system, online, through the teaching platform and all nursing students did PCR tests 72 hours before going to their hospital internships.

The School bought all the personal protective equipment for the students to use in their hospital internships and thus it avoided generating further expenses for the hospital's administration. Unfortunately, Erasmus mobility was suspended during the pandemic.

We are also very pleased to share with you the publication of our article

"Nursing Lecturers' Perception and Experience of Teaching Cultural Competence: A European Qualitative Study"

It has been published in IJERPH as part of the Special Issue Implicit Bias Mitigation in Healthcare Professional Education: Implications for Life-Long Learning.

[Link to the article](#)



Joint final event: PREP & TC-Nurse projects
Online Conference - Thursday 24th June 2021

Contact us: [PREP](#) // [TC-Nurse](#)

SAVE THE DATE... MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON

The The TransCoCon project (<https://www.transcocon.ac.uk/>) is developing multi-media materials for 'Transcultural Collaboration and Competence in Nursing', and is a trans-national collaborative research project between partner institutions in Nottingham, Germany, Belgium, Portugal and Ireland.

TransCoCon focuses on promoting internationalisation, recognition and mobility whilst enhancing cultural awareness and the promotion of transcultural competence in the professional context of nursing and healthcare.

The project group consulted with nursing students, practitioners, teachers and service users, using a participatory design approach to investigate 'real life' scenarios in nursing which will aid the development of a new multimedia based training platform.

During their final event, they gave members of our team the floor to present the TC-Nurse project.

You can see the short movie on our website [http:// tcnurse.eu/](http://tcnurse.eu/)

