



PRESS RELEASE, N.1 – 15 JUNE 2021



#PROJECTSAVE #ELDERABUSE

15 JUNE, 2021 - WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

SAVE PROJECT BRINGS TOGETHER 5 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES TO ADDRESS THE PHENOMENON THROUGH THE ADOPTION OF A SCREENING PROGRAMME IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SETTINGS

Elder Abuse is a social issue which affects the Health and Human Rights of a huge number of older persons around the world, and an occurrence which deserves the attention of the whole international community.

The World Elder Abuse Awareness Day happens each year on June 15th and represents the one day in the year when the community raises the attention on the abuse and suffering inflicted to some of our older generations, a group claiming for attention during these pandemic times and beyond.

Doubtless, older people face additional vulnerabilities at this time. The virus has not just threatened their lives, it has also affected their social networks, their access to health services, their jobs and their wellbeing.

Save project brings together a strategic partnership of 6 organisations from 5 Erasmus+ countries namely Poland, Italy, Finland, Portugal and Cyprus to promote the early identification of abuse as a key factor to prevent violence and reduce risk of future health impacts resulting from violence.

USING SCREENING TOOLS FOR IDENTIFICATION IS HELPFUL TO SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS TO RECOGNIZE AND ASSESS VIOLENCE AND NEGLECT OF OLDER PERSONS, HOWEVER THE USE OF SCREENING TOOLS IS STILL RARE ACROSS EU.

That's why the partnership will work to contribute to the adoption of screening practices within the partner countries with the goal to:

- increase knowledge of screening tools and their suitability in identification of violence against older persons in social and health care services. ([see the Abstract of a Literature Review](#))
- improve capacity of social and health care professionals to identify and intervene and support and refer the cases of violence against older persons to relevant services

- develop educators' competences to teach professionals how to deal with violence against older persons and to support and mentor them
- produce an interactive training program for improving active and innovative learning of social and health care teachers, trainers and professionals in identification and intervention in case of violence against older persons.

Save project partners want to celebrate this day and act together to challenge elder abuse in health and social care settings through the provision of a comprehensive screening programme.

To learn more about the project, visit the website <https://www.projectsave.eu>

#WEAAD2021 #RightsDoNotGetOld #elderabuse #saveeuproject



NOTES TO EDITOR:

The SAVE project is implemented by a consortium, coordinated by PCG Polska (Poland) and involving Anziani e non solo, Cadiai (Italy), Osk VoiVa. (Finland), two academic institutions: University of Minho, in Portugal, Cyprus University of Technology,

A systematic review and meta-analysis of research until 2015 (Yon, Mikton, Gassoumis, Wilber, 2017), it was found that the prevalence of elderly mistreatment worldwide that included 28 countries globally, showed that in communities, almost one in six older persons 60 years or over had been victims of emotional, physical, sexual and financial violence and neglect over the past year. The average prevalence rate globally in communities was 15,7%. There were geographical differences globally, which in Europe were between 2,2% to 61,1%. For Europe, the estimated prevalence rate was 15,4%.

A systematic review of the literature was conducted within the Project SAVE. It found thirty-seven screening instruments cited in the literature, of which, only eight were tested in research. A few well-established assessment tools were identified (HS-EAST, VASS and EASI) and are available for use in the practice setting. The project SAVE aim now is to train professionals of multiple fields to administer and interpret such tools.
<https://www.projectsave.eu/download/297/>

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