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Blog: Nursing Leadership at the bedside: building the "Toolkit" for the future!

Within our European Erasmus+ project, we are currently working the Clinical Leadership Library. This is where theory and practice come together to make clinical leadership tangible, visible, and teachable for every (future) nurse.

While earlier phases of our project focused on developing a theoretical framework and identifying gaps in current educational programmes, this component is all about practice. We are building an open-access library filled with inspiring teaching materials and innovative tools. Our goal? To bridge the gap in clinical leadership between the theoretical framework and nursing education.

Why this matters

Clinical leadership is not a formal management role; it is a healthcare professional's ability to use personal influence to improve patient outcomes and strengthen the healthcare environment through clinical expertise, responsibility, and humanity.

Whether it involves raising an ethical dilemma for discussion or improving a handover, clinical leadership saves lives and enhances the quality of care. In this component, we provide educators and students with the tools to embrace clinical leadership.

What to expect?

In close collaboration with education professionals from Belgium, Finland and Portugal, we are working on:

- **An escape game for students**: An exciting method in which students can experiment with decision-making, teamwork, and communication in a safe environment.
- **Best practices**: We are collecting inspiring teaching methods that are already being used successfully.
- **Interactive workshops**: We bring together simulation trainers, communication lecturers, and clinical placement mentors to integrate clinical leadership into their daily practice.

The results of this work will be made available in our Clinical Leadership Library: a digital library that will be freely accessible across Europe,.

A longitudinal thread in education

Clinical leadership should run like a thread throughout the entire curriculum: from year one to complex improvement projects during the final internship. We are training nurses who dare to speak up, dare to create change, and dare to lead.

Together, we make clinical leadership the standard, not the exception!

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