



The Potential and Challenges of Demographic Change

Joint Call 2016 – Project EMMY

European Welfare Models and Mental Wellbeing in Final Years of Life

SUMMARY AND OVERALL AIM

The EMMY Project is an interdisciplinary and mixed methods comparative study on impact of welfare systems on mental wellbeing among the oldest old in Finland, Italy, Norway and Spain, including aspects such as equity, social inclusion, empowerment and participation.

The project will delineate the concept of mental wellbeing at old age by qualitative methods, and will dissect the links between welfare systems and mental wellbeing by quantitative methods. It will support exchange of good policies between EU Member States by performing case studies of existing welfare policies and systems in the four participating countries, and it will develop a new research-based tool for assessing the mental wellbeing impact of welfare policies in old people.

The overarching aim of this interdisciplinary, comparative research project is to improve our knowledge and understanding of how different welfare models and related policies, as well as health and social care service approaches, can benefit from adaptation in order to target mental wellbeing in the oldest-old.

The project will support development of social welfare models in order to incorporate a change of focus from mental disorders to mental wellbeing among old people.

This is important, not only because of the ageing of the European population, but also because of increasing pressures on public finances, within and beyond Europe.

PROJECT DURATION AND BUDGET

Duration: 36 months project start 1.1.2017

Requested funding: 857949 €

Total budget: 1070606 €

CONSORTIUM

The consortium led by Professor Kristian Wahlbeck (THL) consisting of 5 partners from 4 countries:

1. Coordinator National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), **Finland**
2. Partner 1 Led by Anna Forsman Åbo Akademi University, **Finland**
3. Partner 2 Led by Jorid Kalseth SINTEF, **Norway**
4. Partner 3 Led by Marta Miret The Autonomous University of Madrid (UAM), **Spain**
5. Partner 4 Led by Francesco Amadeo University of Verona (UNIVR), **Italy**

WORK PACKAGES

Work Package 1 - Mental Wellbeing Concepts, depicting the varying conceptual nuances and measures used in old age and frail populations, increasing conceptual clarity.

Work Package 2 - Welfare System Outcomes assesses the impact of welfare systems on mental wellbeing in old age, answering the research question of whether there is variation in mental wellbeing among older people across different welfare states and welfare regime types, and whether this variation can be linked to aspects such as the level and organization of short or long term health care, social care and benefits, and the role of family.

Work Package 3 - Comparative Policy Analysis performing case studies of welfare models for older people in each of the participating countries, with a specific emphasis on mental wellbeing.

Work Package 4 - Mental Wellbeing Impact Assessment Tool will be developed with the aim of raising awareness and understanding of mental wellbeing among the old, enabling stakeholders to identify the impact a particular policy, service, programme or project may have on it.

SECOND JPI MYBL CALL FOR PROPOSALS

EMMY is one of the projects that is funded in the second JPI MYBL call for proposals of 2016, entitled 'Welfare, Wellbeing and Demographic Change: Understanding Welfare Models'. A total of five projects received funding.

www.jp-demographic.eu.