



JTC 2017 - Ageing and place in a digitising world

MCI@work

Dementia or mild cognitive impairment: @ work in progress

SUMMARY AND OVERALL AIM

This multidisciplinary project (occupational therapy, psychology, elder law and labour law, social and political science, and engineering) will provide new insights into what happens when people develop mild cognitive impairment or early stage dementia while still working, how this is influenced by legislation, and how it is experienced and potentially managed by those concerned. This project will focus on:

- 1) The role of technology, the match between persons and technologies, testing new/adapted solutions to support continued work and/or transition from work, and the learning approaches and problem-solving strategies each person develops for adapting and managing working with cognitive impairment;
- 2) How laws, regulations and policies in different countries and organizations can support and/or hinder continued work and/or transition from work, how these are practiced by a variety of actors, and how they can be understood better by people with dementia/MCI and their employers;
- 3) The creation of a new digital tool to support understanding, communication, and planning between people with MCI and their employers.

Researchers from Sweden, Finland and Canada will collaborate with people with MCI/dementia in the workplace, their families, employers and HR staff. An interdisciplinary, in-depth inquiry into cases in all countries, in combination with analyses of legal regulations and their translation into practice, will add profound new conceptual understanding to produce new tools and technologies that enable people with MCI/dementia to take a lead role in managing and choosing their work life.

CONSORTIUM

1. Karolinska Institutet, Linköping University and Malmö University (Sweden)
2. University of Eastern Finland and the Age Institute (Finland)
3. University of Toronto and University of Waterloo (Canada)

WORK PACKAGES

WP1. Case Studies

Involve following case studies and the joint compilation of information gathered from the case studies from different countries, providing in-depth understanding of how their situation and transition process might be experienced and managed, and of the influencing conditions, particularly related to the role of technology.

WP2. Assessing dynamic needs and identification of support

Implement and adapt the method of Solution Focused Coaching as a means to support the person with MCI or early stage dementia as an agent in these conversations and this process.

WP3. Role of everyday technology and learning approaches

Explore technology's role in the studied situations by adding standardized assessments and questionnaires to the ethnographic approach in Swedish cases.

WP4. Practicing policies

Explore how local legislation, regulations and policies are practiced, actors of relevance to cases will be invited to focus group discussions in the countries, especially focussing on the persons' citizenship in the present vocational situation or transition process from work.

WP5. Analysis of the legal framework

WP6. Novel technology for supporting transition to MCI at work

Create a cloud-based technology that is able to empower the person with MCI by supporting communication, education and adapted occupation.

PROJECT DURATION AND BUDGET

Project duration: 36 months

Project costs: 782.963

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Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) "More Years, Better Lives"

A total of 8 projects received funding.

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