EDU-MENT Project: Interim External Evaluation Using a Logical Framework Approach

Project: Education in Mental Health for Nurses in Home and Residential Care (EDU-MENT)

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1. Introduction

This interim evaluation report applies a logical framework approach to assess the EDU-MENT (Education in Mental Health for Nurses in Home and Residential Care) project. The evaluation focuses on progress, process quality, and effectiveness across the five core Work Packages (WPs), drawing on both qualitative and quantitative evidence from the internal interim process evaluation and project documentation supplied to the evaluators.

2. Project Goal / Overall Objective

The overall goal of the EDU-MENT is to

- Strengthen mental health competencies of registered nurses in home and residential care settings.
- Improve early recognition, monitoring, and care for individuals with mental health issues.

3. Project Purpose

The specific objectives of EDU-MENT are to

- Develop innovative digital tools, blended training, and organisational strategies.
- Pilot and implement these tools and strategies to support professional development and institutional capacity-building.

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4. Project Outputs

The EDU-MENT is organised into four work packages (WPs).

WP1: Quality Management Manual, internal evaluation tools, external evaluation coordination.
WP2:Needs analysis reports, research specifications.
WP3: Digital screening tool, user manual, evaluation summary.
WP4: Blended training module, curricula, trainer profiles, e-learning platform.
WP5: Organisational development concept, audit methodology, national audit reports.

5. Project Activities

The activities in the project include desk research, stakeholder interviews, co-creation of digital tools, curriculum development, piloting, and evaluation.

To date of this report, the desk research, stakeholder interviews, co-creation of digital tools and curriculum development have been undertaken.

6. Key Findings and Progress Against Logical Framework

As evaluators, and based on the documentation provided by the project partners, our view of the project is as follows.

- The project is progressing steadily with most core deliverables initiated and some completed.
- WP2: has successfully completed the needs analysis.

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- WP3: the digital screening tool has been developed and piloted and refinement ongoing. The online platform for the tool is not yet finalised and is still being developed.
- WP4: the blended training module has been drafted; however, it has not been finalised as yet and the e-learning platform is therefore delayed.
- WP5 awaiting inputs from WP3/WP4.
- Communication and partner engagement generally strong.

7. Review of project

The project has demonstrable strengths and some potential weaknesses.

Strengths include

- Open and professional communication is evident between the project partners ; strong bilateral coordination.
- Complementary academic, clinical, and technical expertise.
- High motivation and commitment across partners.
- Active end-user involvement (nurses).

Potential weaknesses as identified through the documentation provided and meeting attended.

- Delays in WP3 and WP4 outputs affecting WP5 timeline.
- Uneven partner progress and staff turnover impacting continuity.
- Occasional communication challenges between partners and unclear task responsibilities.

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8. Logical Framework Matrix

Using a Logical Framework (Logframe) for project evaluation offers a clear, structured, and results-oriented approach as it links activities to intended outcomes and impact, enabling systematic monitoring and evaluation of whether the project is achieving its objectives, how well resources are being used, and what adjustments may be needed.

The below table capture the goal, purpose, outputs, activities and inputs of the EDU-MENT project. The project aims to enhance mental health care through improved training and tools for nurses working in home and residential environments. The ultimate goal is better patient outcomes and higher nurse competency.

To achieve this, the project focuses on:

- Delivering blended training modules and practical tools for nurses
- Developing key outputs like curricula, audits, and digital tools
- Conducting research, tool development, and stakeholder engagement

Success will be measured through competency assessments, tool adoption, deliverable quality, and feedback from piloting activities.

Key assumptions include continued stakeholder engagement, sufficient funding, timely delivery of project components, stable staffing, and strong inter-partner collaboration.

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Level	Objective	Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions
Goal	Improved mental health care in home/residential settings	Nurse competency scores; patient outcomes (long-term)	Final evaluation report; post-training assessments	Continued stakeholder engagement and funding support
Purpose	Enhanced training and tools for nurses	Delivery of blended module and tool usage	Course completion rates; tool adoption reports	Effective integration into care routines
Outputs	WP Deliverables (tools, curricula, audits)	Number and quality of deliverables completed	Internal evaluation; partner reports; piloting feedback	Timely completion of WP3 & WP4 to support WP5
Activities	Research, tool development, training design	Meeting logs; piloting records; stakeholder interviews	Document review; interim process evaluation	Stable staffing; responsive communication across partners
Inputs	Funding, staff, expertise, digital tools	Budget utilization; partner work plans	Financial reports; coordination meeting notes	Institutional support and inter-partner collaboration

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9. Areas for Improvement (Recommendations for Inputs > Outputs Pathway)

- Establish regular WP-level coordination meetings. It is not evident to the evaluators if these are occurring.
- Reinforce internal timelines and tracking systems. Review the Gantt chart to to reflect and then risk assess the project delays.
- Improve meeting preparation with advance document sharing, and feedback loops.
- It seems there have been longer gaps between partner meetings at times and we are not clear if all partner meetings occurred as per the original Gantt chart.
- Increase joint planning across WP3-WP4-WP5.
- Embed end-user testing earlier in tool/training development.

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10. Conclusion

The EDU-MENT project is well on track toward achieving its objectives. While some interdependencies caused delays, the strong foundation of partner collaboration and responsiveness suggests that corrective measures are in place. Timely finalisation of WP3 and WP4 outputs will be critical for WP5's success and the sustainability of outcomes.

This interim evaluation confirms that EDU-MENT has laid down a robust framework for innovation in mental health training for nurses in home and residential care. The coordinated efforts in WP2 have produced comprehensive needs assessments that have directly informed the development of the digital screening tools (WP3) and the initial curriculum design (WP4). These interconnections demonstrate the logical coherence of the project's design and implementation.

The evaluation also highlights the strength of the consortium's commitment to continuous improvement, openness to feedback, and proactive problem-solving—factors which mitigate risks and support adaptive project management. If the recommendations for improved coordination, earlier engagement in joint planning, and tighter integration across work packages are adopted in the second phase, the project is likely to deliver high-quality, transferable results. The successful completion and implementation of WP5, in particular, will be a key determinant of the project's long-term impact and sustainability. By focusing on organisational development and scaling good practices, EDU-MENT can extend its influence beyond the immediate partnership to a broader European and international context.

In conclusion, EDU-MENT is a well-conceived, strategically aligned project that has made solid initial progress. With careful attention to internal coordination, timely deliverables, and cross-WP synergy, it is well positioned to achieve its objectives and deliver lasting value to mental health care in long-term care settings.

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11. Documentation used for the Interim Evaluation.

1. EDU-MENT Interim Process Evaluation Report (March 2025)
2. WP1–WP5 Work Package Deliverables
3. Internal Partner Feedback Logs
4. National and Transnational Needs Analysis Reports
5. Digital Screening Tool Evaluation Summary
6. Project Coordination Meeting Minutes

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