



From Education to Policy Impact in European Healthcare

The PROGRAMMING COST Action 21122



16th October
9:00 - 17:30 CET



Hybrid Event

Onsite participation (Invitation only)
Open free online participation
upon registration



Brussels

Domus Medica Europaea
Rue de l'Industrie 24, BE-1040

Key Features

- » Discussions among policymakers, researchers, healthcare professionals and older people
- » Research results on geriatric education as an asset for healthcare systems
- » Tools and actionable strategies for real-world impact
- » Harmonisation of older people's care across Europe



Register Here

WELCOME ADDRESS

Dear Colleagues and Distinguished Guests,

We are pleased to welcome you to the final event of the PROGRAMMING COST Action 21122, taking place in Brussels on 16th of October 2026.

This meeting will present the key outputs and legacy of the Action, while fostering a forward-looking discussion on how these achievements can translate into policy and practice. Together, we will explore practical solutions to improve and harmonise standards of care for older people across Europe and highlight the importance of interprofessional education and collaboration in strengthening healthcare systems.

The event also aims to reinforce the role of Geriatric Medicine as a strategic response to population ageing, and to foster dialogue between policymakers, the scientific community, healthcare professionals, and the civil society.

We are particularly grateful to the European Geriatric Medicine Society (EuGMS), as Grant Holder and key contributor to the Action, for its continuous support. This event represents not only the conclusion of a successful collaborative effort, but also the starting point for future scientific collaborations and initiatives within the wider research and clinical community.

We look forward to your participation and to a fruitful exchange.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Marina Kotsani

Prof Mirko Petrovic

On behalf of the PROGRAMMING COST Action 21122 Leadership

INFORMATION

The event will take place in Brussels at the Domus Medica Europaea, Rue de l'Industrie 24, BE-1040 Brussels, Belgium on October 16th, 2026. Official language is English.

STREAMING

Open Sessions will be streamed on zoom at the following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/7rrPlyDFTIGqV1MFMmzkeA>

Chat function will be available for comments and questions.

The times of sessions in the program are Central European Summer Time (CEST, UTC+2). Please adapt to your local time zone.

REGISTRATION

Registration for the event is free for both onsite and online participation.

Even though showing up to the publicly open sessions is possible, pre-registration is strongly recommended, whether you intend to participate online or onsite. To pre-register, please use this link to register: <https://us06web.zoom.us/join/7rrPlyDFTIGqV1MFMmzkeA>

Following this you will receive the **formal invitation via the e-COST platform that we kindly ask you to accept** by clicking to the right link, to officialise your participation to the event.

VIDEO RECORDINGS

Most of the event's sessions, will be videorecorded and videos will be accessible on the website and social media of the PROGRAMMING COST Action <https://cost-programming.eu/> and of the EuGMS <https://www.eugms.org>. Acceptance of the e-COST invitation implies consent for recording and appropriate

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

in alphabetical order

Benetos, Athanase
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Bonin-Guillaume, Sylvie
Buzaco, Rui
Cherubini, Antonio
Conde, Monserrat
Duque, Sofia
Ekdahl, Anne
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Kossioni, Anastasia
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Kravvariti, Evrydiki
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Van der Velde, Nathalie
Vassallo, Michael
Yellon, Tamar

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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Bellotti, Benedetta
Duque, Sofia
Kotsani, Marina
Petrovic, Mirko
Piotrowicz, Karolina
Silvani, Sabrina

OPEN CONFERENCE

From Education to Policy Impact in European Healthcare: The PROGRAMMING COST Action 21122

Friday 16th of October 2026- *morning*

Domus Medica Europaea,
Rue de l'Industrie 24, BE-1040 Brussels, Belgium
+ Online

Welcome- Opening

Chairs: Mirko Petrovic, Athanase Benetos

09:00-09:20: **Healthcare of older people as a global challenge** (Matteo Cesari)

09:20-09:30: **PROGRAMMING COST Action 21122: History, main focus and vision**
(Marina Kotsani)

Geriatric Medicine Education across Europe

Chairs: Tahir Masud, Maria-Cristina Polidori

09:30-09:40: **Mapping Geriatric Medicine education across Europe** (K. Piotrowicz)

09:40-09:55: **Educational needs in geriatric medicine of healthcare professionals**
(G.Ogliari, T. Yellon)

09:55-10:05: **The basics of geriatric care for healthcare professionals in
ambulatory/Primary/home care settings** (E. Kravvariti, N. Bogdanovic)

10:05-10:15: **The basics of geriatric care for healthcare professionals in acute/subacute
and long- term institutional care settings** (Sylvie Bonin-Guillaume)

10:15-10:30: **Framework of training methods and professionalism as the best practice
model of geriatric care** (Regina Roller-Wirnsberger, Michael Vassallo)

10:30-11:00: Break

Advocacy for Geriatric Medicine across Europe

Moderators: Anne Ekdhal, Sofia Duque, Karolina Piotrowicz

11:00-12:30: **Geriatric medicine matters:**

- for healthcare professionals (Serdar Ozkok)
- for healthcare related educators (Maria Tampaki)
- for civil society (Meltem Koca)
- for healthcare systems and policymakers (Rui Buzaco)
- Overall Comments and discussion (Montserrat Conde)

12:30-13:30: Mid-day Break

OPEN CONFERENCE

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Friday 16th of October 2026- *afternoon*

Impact and sustainability

13:45-14:15: **Action's outputs as tools for stakeholders and policymakers and synergies' facilitators** (Sofia Duque, Karolina Piotrowicz)

Open discussion on implementation aspects: what is the PROGRAMMING toolkit and how it can be used

Moderators: Mirko Petrovic, Sylvie Bonin-Guillaume

14:15-15:30: **Panel discussion: Opportunities' identification and actionable conclusions:** Translating EU strategies to national policies: the role of scientific synergies and civil society involvement for the advocacy of the quality care for older people

Panel participants (TBC):

Moderators: Antonio Cherubini, Marina Kotsani

15:30-15:45: Break

15:45-16:05: **Focus on Geriatric Medicine**

- **Case study of local implementation strategies and other impact** (G. Soulis)
- **Next day after PROGRAMMING** (Marina Kotsani)

Chairs: Nathalie Van der Velde, Cornel Siber

16:05-17:20: **Implications of Geriatric Medicine beyond the Geriatric Specialisation.**

Panel discussion on geriatric education:

- **for medical doctors of various specialities**
- **for nurses and allied healthcare professionals**

Panel participants (TBC)

Moderators: Michael Vassallo, Regina Roller-Wirnsberger

Closing

17:20-17:30: **Closing remarks and conclusions**

Moderators: Athanase Benetos, Mirko Petrovic, Tahir Masud

Participants' affiliations (alphabetical order)

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