



Final Action Conference

*Celebrating what PROGRAMMING CA 21122
has achieved and exploring what's next*



9th - 10th October, 2026
Friday and Saturday



Conference Format
Virtual Conference

➡ WG Outputs & Achievements

➡ Final MC Meeting

➡ Additional Projects & Initiatives

➡ Future Perspectives

WELCOME ADDRESS

Dear colleagues, partners, and friends,

Welcome to the Final Conference of PROGRAMMING COST Action 21122, which will take place online on the 9th and 10th of October 2026. This conference is open to all; both Action members and anyone interested in improving care for older adults.

Over the past four years, PROGRAMMING has brought together a vibrant and multidisciplinary network of researchers, educators, healthcare professionals, policymakers and stakeholders committed to advancing Geriatric Medicine and promoting healthy ageing across Europe. A major objective was to reach countries where Geriatric Medicine is still emerging. This has been successfully achieved, with more than 450 participants from 46 countries engaged in the Action, alongside multiple collaborative publications, projects, and funded initiatives. Through collaboration, knowledge exchange, capacity building, and scientific innovation, the Action has generated a structured European overview of Geriatric Medicine education, supporting the development of targeted training frameworks across diverse healthcare settings. PROGRAMMING's wide range of outputs contributed to strengthening education, fostering interprofessional collaboration, and supporting the development of Geriatric Medicine in countries with diverse healthcare and educational landscapes.

This conference is an opportunity to reflect on what we have achieved together, to showcase the outputs and initiatives developed by our Working Groups, and to celebrate the contributions of all those who have helped shape the Action. It is also the occasion to highlight the impact of the Action on professional practice, education, research, and policy, but also to define its legacy in terms of sustained collaboration, training implementation, and continued policy engagement. As PROGRAMMING approaches its formal conclusion, many of the ideas, collaborations, and initiatives it has generated are only beginning their journey. Together, we will explore how the Action's outputs can continue to inform education, support healthcare professionals, strengthen advocacy for Geriatric Medicine, and inspire future projects and collaborations within the European Geriatric Medicine Society and beyond.

Thank you for joining us. We hope this meeting will be both a celebration of what has been accomplished and a starting point for the next chapter of this shared effort. We wish you an inspiring and productive conference.

The PROGRAMMING COST Action 21122 Leadership Team

Dr Marina Kotsani

Prof Mirko Petrovic

On behalf of the PROGRAMMING COST Action 21122 Leadership

INFORMATION

*The event will take place ONLINE on October 9th and 10th 2026.
Official language is English.*

STREAMING

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

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/UjWBzLX6R-mn4vRZA1_3xQ

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 online participation.

To pre-register, please use this link to register:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/UjWBzLX6R-mn4vRZA1_3xQ

*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 dissemination.***

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

in alphabetical order

Benetos, Athanase
Bogdanovic, Nenad
Bonin-Guillaume, Sylvie
Duque, Sofia
Ekdahl, Anne
Herghelegiu, Anna
Kotsani, Marina
Koca, Meltem
Kravvariti, Evrydiki
Martinez-Velilla, Nicolas
Masud, Tahir
Pavic, Tajana
Petrovic, Mirko
Piotrowicz, Karolina
Roller-Wirnsberger, Regina
Vassallo, Michael

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

in alphabetical order

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

Final Action Conference ONLINE

What PROGRAMMING COST Action 21122 has achieved (part A)

Day 1 Friday October 09th – Afternoon - ONLINE
PROGRAMMING CA21122 OPEN TO ALL

ONLINE

Opening of the Final Action Conference

14:30-14:45: **Welcome, introduction and outline** (*M. Kotsani*)

Working Groups' outputs (part A)

14:45-16:00: **WG1: Mapping of the current status of GM across Europe and assessment of educational needs**

Chairs: *A. Ekdhal, T. Masud*

- **Mapping the Landscape of Geriatric Medicine Education, Training and Practice in Europe** (*A. Herghelegiu*)
- **Online survey on educational gaps: Overall results of professionals** (*G. Ogliari*)
- **Online survey on educational gaps: Results of end year medical students** (*William McKeown*)
- **Qualitative analysis on healthcare professionals' attitudes towards geriatric care** (*T. Yellon*)
- **Qualitative analysis of focus group on educational needs on basic geriatrics** (*R. Frost*)

16:00-16:30: break

Working Groups' outputs (part B)

Chairs: *Mirko Petrovic, Athanase Benetos*

16:30-17:00: **WG2**

- **Unmet geriatric needs for HCPs caring for older adults in ambulatory settings across Europe** (*E. Kravvariti*)
- **Consensus on the content of the training course in GM destined for professionals working in ambulatory settings and home care networks** (*N. Bogdanovic*)

17:00-17:30: **WG3**

- **Key gaps in geriatric knowledge and educational needs among healthcare professionals working with older adults in acute, subacute, and long-term care settings** (*C. Chen and E. Liuu*)
- **Consensus on the content of the training course in GM destined for professionals working in acute/subacute and long-term care settings** (*E.Liuu, S. Bonin-Guillaume*)

17:30-18:15: **WG4 An innovative European Framework for age-friendly healthcare capacity building** (*R. Roller-Wirnsberger, M. Vassallo*)

- **Building Health workforce Capacity for old age care in Europe- an Evidence-based educational framework for scaling actions** (*R. Roller-Wirnsberger*)
- **Building Professionalism across a multi-professional workforce: How experience and Attitudes shape Interest in Care of Older Adults** (*M. Vassallo*)
- **Developing Multi-professional Teams: What Do Cluster and Latent Class Analyses from COST Action PROGRAMMING Tell Us?** (*L. Soraci*)

18:15-18:25: **Closing remarks day one**

Day 2 Saturday October 10th – Morning -
PROGRAMMING CA21122 OPEN TO ALL

ONLINE

Final Action Conference *What PROGRAMMING COST Action 21122 has* *achieved and what's next (part B)*

Working Group 5: Dissemination and Impact maximization

Chairs: S. Duque, M. Conde

09.00-09.30: Welcome and day opening **Impact enhancing activities**

- **Action expansion and membership** (*R. Buzaco*)
- **Grants' overview** (*M. Koça*)
- **The impact of face-to-face events** (*M. Kotsani*)
- **Advocacy for Geriatric Medicine: Strategic synergies and call for endorsement** (*S. Duque, K. Piotrowicz*)

09.30-10.30: Advocacy briefs (*M. Tampaki, M. Koça, S. Ozkok, R. Buzaco*)

10:30-10:50: break

Additional initiatives and parallel projects (part A)

Chairs: G. Ogliari, M. Koca

10.50- 12.30

➤ **Per professional group:**

- **Knowledge, clinical relevance and educational needs to care for older adults among nurses in Europe: A comparative analysis** (*J. Tavares*)
- **Current knowledge, relevance to practice and educational needs for geriatrics among dental professionals in Europe** (*A. Kossioni*)
- **Professional capacities of physiotherapists in Europe for care for older people** (*C. Pertinatsch*)
- **Pharmacists' perceived knowledge, attitudes and practice in geriatrics across Europe and the role of pharmacists in geriatric care** (*K. Harasani*)

- **Per geriatric topic:**
 - **Current knowledge, relevance to practice and educational needs for gerodontology among care providers in Europe** (*A. Popovac*)
 - **Identify the educational gaps of the interdisciplinary team managing older adults with falls, fragility fractures and orthogeriatric care needs** (*C. Ruggiero*)
- **Per country: Presentation of national data on educational needs of professionals on principles of geriatric care:**
 - **Poland** (*Karolina Piotrowicz*)
 - **Serbia** (*K. Stefanović*)
 - **German speaking countries** (*M. Honegger*)
 - **Nordic countries** (*L. Holst Andersen*)

12:30-14:00: Mid-day break

Additional initiatives and parallel projects (part B)

Chairs: R. Buzaco, K. Piotrowicz

14.00- 15.20

- **WHO ICOPE implementation framework: A case study in 8 countries where geriatric medicine is still emerging** (*M. Kotsani*)
- **Facilitating advocacy for the healthcare for older people through multi-language translations** (*T. Yellon*)
- **Long-term care nutritional practices across five European countries** (*A. Rudzińska*)
- **Polypharmacy and Deprescribing Readiness in European Emergency Departments** (*G. Bahat*)
- **Choose Respect: the impact of ageist terminology** (*I. Perera*)
- **Empowering women's voices in geriatric medicine: understanding challenges and opportunities.** (*A. Rudzińska*)
- **Leadership and teamwork in geriatric care: self-perceptions, training needs, and workplace support.** (*R. Kupis*)
- **Physicians' Knowledge, Attitudes, and Educational Needs Regarding Ageism, and Older Abuse** (*S. Çavdar*)
- **Medical doctors' Knowledge and Educational Needs for Advance healthcare directive and Palliative & End of Life care** (*F. Ozge Kayhan Kocak*)
- **Glossary of Geriatric terms** (*K. Harasani, G. Soulis*)

15.20-15.40: Break

Plenary session and final MC meeting.

15.40-16.40

- **What we achieved in 4 years (parallel achievements beyond scientific results)** (*M. Kotsani*)
- **The PROGRAMMING tool kit and how you can use it** (*S. Duque, K. Piotrowicz*)
- **What we can still achieve and how can I stay involved** (*M. Kotsani*)
- **The floor is yours** (*Action leaders and members take the floor for a final comment*)

16.40-16.45: Closing