



Health and Social Services



Education concept

Transnational project manager:
Lena Perttu Luleå Sweden

Participating partners:
Bodø Norway and Faroe Island



**Northern
Periphery
Programme**
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Background

Medicine handling is an important task for staffs in the home help care services. Knowledge about medication is therefore required for staffs that work with elderly because many of them need help with their medication. The medicine must be stored and given at the right time, and it is important that right observations are reported to the nurses in the health care. Staffs in the home help care services often have to decide when to contact the district nurse at the health centre in medication matters. Elderly are more sensitive for medicine than younger and side effects among them is not unusual. Hospital visits are in many cases caused by wrong medication.

Present situation

In Norway the law prescribes that all staffs that handle medicine must get an education before they can be authorized to handle medicine. The federation of labour unions have made a compendium about medicine handling to be used during the education; the length of the education is twelve ours whit a four-our follow-up every third year. In Bodö a pharmacist holds these educations.

Project work

Apoteket Farmaci in Sweden has an education concept about medicine handling, which has similarities to the education in Norway. The education can be hold by a pharmacist or it can be offered in a web-based form, so-called e-learning. In Luleå Sweden the both concepts has been tried in the project, in cooperation with Apoteket Farmaci. The evaluations from the educations held by a pharmacist has been very good and the branch head for the staffs in the home help care services experience that staff handle medication questions in a better way. The staffs tell that their knowledge increased and that they feel safer in discussions about medicine. The lectures where also a brush-up of knowledge and will be helpful in their daily work. The evaluation from the web-based form is on-going.

The education includes:

- Purpose of medication
- Prescribed and not prescribed medicine
- How medicine shall be stored and destroyed
- Lasting time for medicine
- Interactions for medicine
- Different ways to take medicine
- What to pay attention about when you give medicine
- Whole or crushed tablets
- Food and medicine
- Problems with medication; swallow problems
- Be aware of that elderly are more sensitive for medicine
- Therapeutic doses, effects and side effects of medicine
- Symptoms to be aware of
- What/when to report to nurses
- Information about the local pharmacy



Enclosure 1

Invitation letter

Health and Social Service, one of the subprojects in Our Life as Elderly OLE 2 welcome you to;

Training in drug handling, basics

Part 1; 3/11 13.00-16:30

Contents: Fundamentals of medication and pharmaceutical knowledge, different pharmaceutical forms, side effects, storage, durability and other things important to consider.

Part 2; 11/11 13.00-17.00

Contents: Medically responsible nurse (MAS) Ulla Olsson give information on delegations. Drug treatment for i.e. pain, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, constipation, depression and sleeping disorders.

Speaker: Jennie Lundström pharmacists, Apoteket Farmaci

Place: Tor (ground floor of the administration building).



Enclosure 2

Letter to staffs who participate in the education study



E-mail Text for the study of different forms of learning
in the project OLE2, Luleå

Evaluation of different forms of learning - General information before the electronic test

In OLE 2, the sub-project Health and Social Service conducted in late 2010 an education in general pharmaceutical knowledge / pharmaceutical management with about 25 home care staff. Given that larger groups of staff may have a need of similar training and that it is now also available in electronic form, so-called e-learning, the project team of OLE 2 would like to know if e-learning can have the same impact as traditional education in the supply of new knowledge and benefits in everyday work.

A project consisting of three groups of about 25 participants in each group has been set up to find answers to this question. One group will receive a traditional education, the second group will receive e-learning and the third group will be a reference group that receives no training. You have been asked to participate in one of these groups. We therefore ask you to answer the survey as best as you can.

The attached questionnaire contains of questions with the alternatives 1-10, or alternatives 1-3. Answer the questions with your first thought that comes into your mind; don't get "hung up" on any question!

The survey is anonymous and cannot be traced back to the individual who answers it. The results will only be presented at group level.

Apoteket Farmaci AB

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Enclosure 3

Invitation letter

Training in drug handling, basics

Health and Social Service, a subprojects in OLE 2, and Apoteket Farmaci welcome you to the training in drug handling, basic course.

The objective of this training is to refresh your understanding of how important it is that drugs are properly managed, and to have basic knowledge of medicines for ordinary illnesses. The training consists of two parts. The training is part of a study to compare the teacher-led training with web-based training that is why you will respond to a questionnaire both before and after training.

Part 1; 30 / 3 13.00-16:30

Content: We discuss among other things, why the same drug can have different names, if it is good or bad to give the medicine with food and why it is important that some tablets are not broken. We also consider together over what might happen if you forget to take medicine one day, we talk about the side effects that sometimes occur during the drug treatment. All participants receive a course booklet with the key elements of the education.

Part 2; 5 / 4 13.00-16:30

Content: We focus on pharmaceutical treatment in a variety of fields, such as pain, sleeping disorders, cardiovascular and dementia. We also discuss in general on drug therapy for elderly and about symptoms that it is especially good to be vigilant of because they may be linked to the drug treatment.

Speaker: Jennie Lundström pharmacists, Apoteket Farmaci

Place: Rödkallen