Hybrid curriculum in patient safety: integration of academic master’s education and continuous professional education in Estonia and in Norway (2019–2022)

Aim of the project: To develop a hybrid curriculum in patient safety for masters’ and continuous professional education in education and management

Partners: Department of Nursing Science, Tartu University (PI) and University of Applied Sciences West-Norway

Funding: EEA/Norway grant for cooperation in higher education, the Education and Youth Board

Contact person in the University of Tartu: Kaja Pölluste, Mari Kangasniemi

Abstract: During the last decades, the interest in patient safety has notably increased in the society, thus, the continuous improvement of competence in patient safety among the health care staff and managers is essential. This project aims to develop the hybrid curriculum of patient safety module integrating academic master’s education and continuous professional education (CPE) in nursing. This kind of integration enables to merge academic and clinical knowledge what is required in implementation and managing patient safety interventions in research and clinical practice. It is achieved by appropriate training of the teaching staff, development of the innovative teaching and learning resources (TLR), and through adding the international dimension by common training and exchange of knowledge and experience between University of Tartu and University of Applied Sciences. Moreover, this curriculum and resources will be applicable for the undergraduate training of medical students as well for the CPE of physicians and other health professionals. Therefore, besides the development of new innovative TLRs and exchange of good practices between the project partners, this project will support the integration between higher education and employment.

PATSAFE: Developing the University of Tartu to a well-networked Patient Safety research center in Estonia (2019–2022)

Aim of the project: To improve and strengthen knowledge and skills in methods, technics and experiences for patient safety research among the early stage researchers (ESRs) and staff from the Institute of Clinical Medicine of the University of Tartu (ICM-UT)

Partners: Tartu University (PI), Avedis Donabedian Foundation (FAD), Spain; IQ Healthcare (IQ-HC), Netherland

Funding: Twinning, EU

Contact person in the University of Tartu: Kaja Pölluste, Mari Kangasniemi

Abstract: The project aims to strengthen and raise the research profile of the ICM-UT academic staff and early stage researchers (ESRs), by implementing the hands-on training on the methods, techniques and experience in patient safety research. In addition, the aim is to encourage the active participation of ESRs in patient safety research by increase their soft skills, to ensure the continuity and sustainability of patient safety research in ICM-UT and to develop the research strategy on patient safety and establish the Estonian Patient Safety Research Network for the long-term sustainability of patient safety research in Estonia. To implement these activities, PATSAFE foresees a comprehensive strategy consisting of knowledge exchange (training materials, seminars, staff visits), soft research skills capacity building, strategic planning and strong dissemination and exploitation efforts.
Aim of the project: The network aims to introduce and use Design Thinking in the development of learning and learning environments to promote a new culture of innovative thinking, and to apply it in health technology education.

Partners: University of Turku (PI), University of Tartu, University of Oslo, The University of SouthEastern Norway, Åbo Akademi University

Funding: NordPlus Higher Education

Contact person in the University of Tartu: Mari Kangasniemi

Abstract: Evidence-based knowledge and health care ethics creates the base for designing technology in health care. This first intensive course organized by the Design Future Health Network serves as a proof of concept for design thinking, DT, as an educational tool for solving complex problems in health technology product development. The objective for this course is to deepen the understanding of the health technology innovation process. This will be accomplished by tackling challenging clinical problems from a human-centered perspective combined with innovative thinking. All six DT process phases are used: Empathize, ideate, define, prototype, test and develop.