

A Project to Foster Behavioural Monitoring in the Field of the ADHD

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Abstract

The WHAAM (Web Health Application for ADHD Monitoring) project has been funded with support from the European Commission in the context of the LLP: KA3 Measure.

It is aimed at sustaining the learning processes of teachers, parents and health personnel to practice monitoring techniques in the context of the CB approach to tackle problematic behaviors in ADHD pupils and young adults (age 7-18). This action may be deemed as part of the LLL process of teachers and adults, also with a relevant spillover effect on the lives of the ADHD pupils.

Moreover, the project seeks to improve the home-school collaboration in the field of ADHD, promote a stronger awareness of the importance of creating a skilled social network around ADHD pupils and diffuse the use of CB monitoring as the best way to collect data and to plan effective and shared interventions.

The main activities of the project regarding:

- the development of a Framework for ICT-based interventions for students with ADHD. It represents a theoretical and methodological tool aimed at guiding the main actors involved in ADHD monitoring and treatment. The results of this work will be diffused to researchers and associations by means of specialized publications, international conferences, and using the project web site.
- the development of a Web Application targeted at parents of children with ADHD, teachers, and health personnel. The Web Application will provide a set of features supporting multimodal interventions for ADHD subjects. In particular, it will promote the creation of a network of people involved in the management of the deficit: teachers and, more in general, educational staff; ADHD subjects parents and experts in health care. The Web Application will be accessible by personal computers and mobile devices and it will be translated in 4 languages (English, Italian, Portuguese, Greek).
- the designing of a Parent and Teacher Training paths aimed at providing teachers and parents of ADHD pupils with behavioral modification techniques and the Web Application developed;

Moreover, an e-Learning module will be designed and delivered, at higher education level, to illustrate methodological and technological approaches useful for supporting the inclusion of ADHD students.

This module will be open to any European higher education institution that is willing to recognize a certain number of ECTS-credits.

The main outcome of the project will be the exploitation of new strategies to monitor the behavior and learning difficulties of ADHD pupils, thus improving teachers' and parents' skills in managing the many difficult behavioral aspects both at home and at school.

A relevant output is expected in the organization of schools which have ADHD pupils, pushing them toward more inclusive policies, and improving the collaboration home-school. Furthermore, the use of ICT will permit to spread good practices and new theoretical results throughout the whole community, at national and international level.

Finally, the dissemination activity should contribute to the diffusion of a new awareness about the social and economic costs related to ADHD, and the necessity to spread a multimodal approach which includes also ICTs.