



Reaching out to the world:

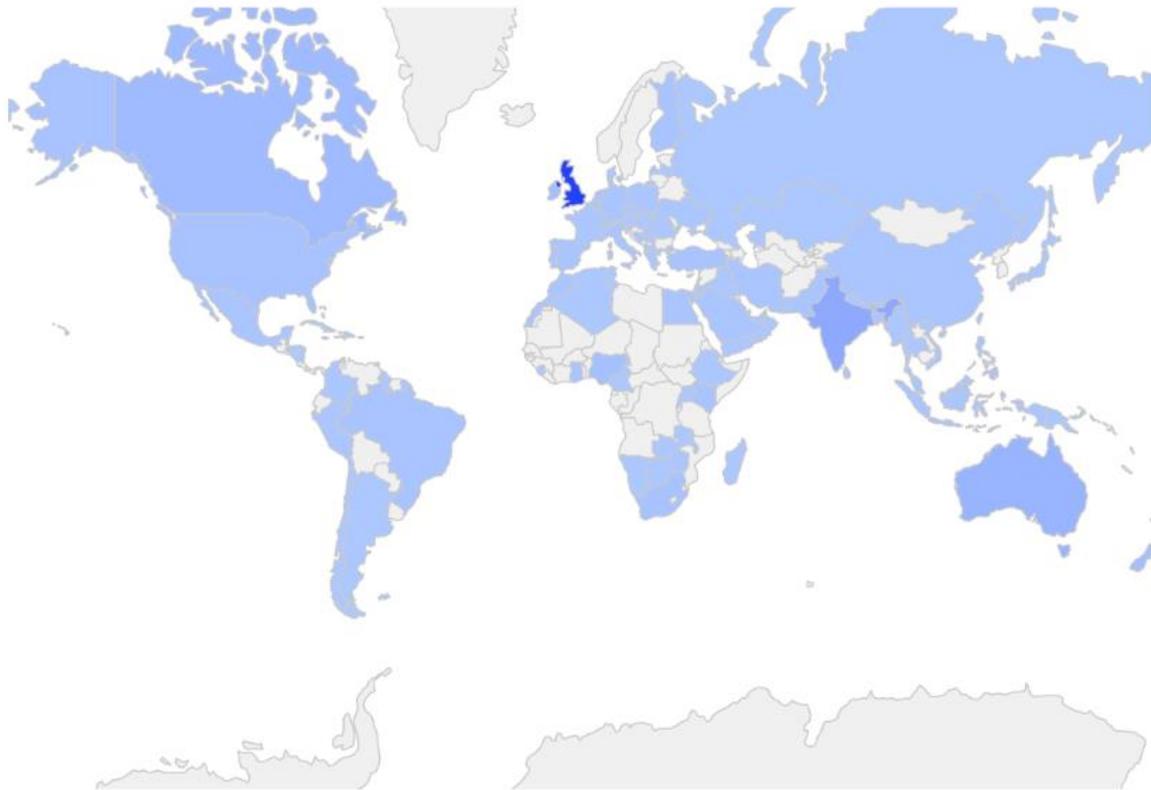
Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) Improving palliative care in care homes

The aim of our online educational programme (MOOC) is to help people across the world to develop and refine palliative care offered in nursing and care homes for older people. It is based on the outcomes of a large international European Commission funded project called PACE (Palliative Care for Older People). During the study, the Lancaster University team designed a six-step programme to enable staff in care homes to increase their knowledge of palliative care and to implement change. This intervention was tested in a cluster randomised control trial in nursing homes in seven European countries. However, research only makes an impact to benefit people, if it is implemented.

So, we were delighted to welcome 936 people from 105 countries who registered to join our Futurelearn based MOOC starting on 22nd February 2021 for three weeks. The map below shows the countries that people are from, with the largest group (38%) from the UK, followed by India (9%) and Australia (5%). Perhaps not surprisingly most participants are in the age range 26-45 years (39%) as the course is aimed at care workers and health professionals based in nursing and care homes. We previously ran the MOOC in 2019 and again at the start of Lockdown 1 in 2020 (please find 2019 and 2020 reports [here](#)). Feedback from two participants:

“I have enjoyed learning about the PACE program [...] What was surprising is how structured, yet simple, the program is.”

“Very insightful and shows that both management and staff need to be motivated and show commitment and enthusiasm about using the PACE Steps to Success so that it can work.”



Map showing the location of participants on the MOOC Improving palliative care in care homes March 2021 (darker blue indicates higher numbers)

For more information about the PACE project see: [PACE \(EU FP7\) – End-of-life Care Research Group VUB](#)

The PACE Steps to Success Programme information pack and resources are available free of charge at [PACE Steps to Success Programme Information Pack and Tools](#) – in English, Finnish, Flemish, Polish, Italian, Dutch and French.

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