

# Online Community of Practice: psyvisnet

*An online platform for professionals supporting adults who are visually impaired and have psychiatric disorders*

## Background

Professionals providing care and treatment to adults who are visually impaired and have psychiatric (and additional) disorders (persons with VlxPI) use a lot of practical, often tacit, knowledge to support their clients. Due to the combination of visual and psychiatric constraints, there is a contradiction to compensate for these constraints which often leads to unique and complex support questions.

These demands can be challenging for professionals and require special knowledge and expertise. However, there are no established methods and protocols for the guidance of adults (incl. older people) with the combination of these problems.

### Online Community of Practice

The project aims to connect professionals who work with the target group. To this end, an online Community of Practice (CoP) is developed, in collaboration with professionals, through which they can, regardless of their location, obtain the opportunity to share their knowledge and expertise. The community is called **psyvisnet** referring to a professional network related to visual impairment and psychiatric disorders

## Goal

The purpose of psyvisnet is to map the current practical knowledge, methods and protocols for the guidance of persons with VlxPI.

Psyvisnet is developed in co-creation with professionals. On this online platform they can share their best practices, knowledge and expertise and learn from each other. The online community also creates a possibility to interact with professionals from (other) organisations and to ask them for advice in specific situations.



## Approach

1. The inventory of requirements for an online CoP (Nov. 2016 – Jan. 2017).
2. Setting up an online CoP (Feb. – April 2017).
3. Building the online CoP (May – Aug. 2017).
4. Using the online CoP for information collection (Sept. – Oct. 2017).

### Duration

November 2016 – October 2017

### Partners

Centre of Expertise for Innovative Care and Technology (EIZT), Zuyd University of Applied Sciences

### Grant

Programmaraad Visuele Sector

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## Connect, Share & Learn

[www.psyvisnet.nl](http://www.psyvisnet.nl) (Available in autumn 2017)



**Robert Coppes Foundation**