

CHARLES UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE
FACULTY OF PHARMACY IN HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ

**ATTITUDES AND EXPERIENCE OF STUDENTS WITH
ADDICTIVE SUBSTANCES:**

**Attitudes of the third year undergraduate pharmacy students of
Charles University in Hradec Králové towards the alcohol and
tobacco**

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This thesis investigates the attitudes, experience and knowledge of the third year undergraduate pharmacy students of Charles University in Hradec Králové in academic year 2005/2006 to legal addictive substances – alcohol and tobacco. It contains both theoretical and practical part. Theoretical part covers basic terms, possible reasons for students' drugs abuse, possibilities of drug addiction prevention, kinds of drug addiction and more detailed pharmacological information about alcohol and tobacco. The practical part is focused on anonymous questionnaire results interpretation. In the conclusion the recent results are being compared with the results of the similar study which was executed in the year 2000 at the same faculty. Gathered information is also collated with the results coming from different faculties (Prague and Brno) and ESPAD study.

There were 190 students who took part in this research. The age interval ranged from 21 to 23 years and the mean age was 22.0 years.

My study proves that most students have experience with legal addictive drugs, mainly with alcohol drinking (97.1%). Their age at the time of their first alcohol usage is between 10 and 15 years for both men (75.9%) and women (69.8%). Most students (76.3%) have confessed that they experienced their first drunkenness between 15th and 20th year. The investigation also implies that in terms of regular consumption men prefer drinking beer to other beverages. Wine and spirits are popular in both groups equally.

72.7% of respondents are non smokers (66.7% men, 74.3% women) and 5.8% belong to regular smokers. There is even a small group of smokers among the students, who gave up smoking for good (7.2%). 43.9% of students (both men and women) have had their first cigarette between 10th and 15th year.

Majority of students think that usage of alcohol (82%) and tobacco (55.4%) is dangerous in long term. Nobody considers any of these substances harmless.

In comparison with old study in academic year 2000, the number of non-smokers (6%) as well as regular smokers (3%) has increased. There is also a significant increase in number of alcoholic beverages consumers. The number of students who experienced drunkenness at least once in their life has grown too.