

Abstract

The main topic of this bachelor thesis are women – users of addictive substances. The theoretical part explains why women are a specific focus groups. The starting point is the theoretical knowledge about this specific group and this thesis summarises it. It describes their needs and barriers to treatment and during treatment. It is based, amongst other things, on foreign resources, annual report of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the annual report of the drug situation in the Czech Republic. The practical part examines views of the general public on this issue. The questionnaire answers research questions concerning general opinion, the needs of drug users and possible barriers to entry the treatment, as well as stigmatisation.

The purpose of the work is to summarise the situation of women users as far as their needs, barriers and stigmatisation and also to determine public opinion. According to different studies, more men than women enter into a treatment program, that is the problem defined. The partial target of this work is to highlight any potential barriers that can hinder access to treatment. By publishing the work, the subject will be extended to the consciousness of the Czech society, both general and professional. It is believed that as far as the subject will be discussed more freely and frequently, any degree of stigma on the subject can be reduced.

Results of the research have shown that respondents are generally able to imagine a troubled past of female drug users. It can be said that most of research participators answered with understanding for the specific group discussed, a minor part also with tolerance for them, but a significant percentage of respondents confirmed the presence of social stigma in the problem given.

KEYWORDS: female drug users, needs, barriers, society, stigma