Summary

Eating disorders are getting more and more attention in today’s society. Mental anorexia and bulimia are considered to be widely spread problems among adolescent girls and young women. Studies estimate anorexia and bulimia to be present in around 4.5% and 1.5%-5% of women population. There is a strong correlation between presence of any addictological disorder and eating disorder. If addictological disorder is to be present eating disorder is to be present in 35% of all cases. Addiction treatment of both phenomena is usually separate although integrated treatment seems to be the most efficient.

The goal of the study is to test the possible employment of an addictologist in eating disorders treatment services and outline possible role of and addictologist in therapeutic team. The goal is to be achieved through semi-structured interviews with employers of three therapeutic clinics Anabell in Prague, Brno and Ostrava. The semi-structured interviews were divided into specific areas. All the interviews were recorded and analysed afterwards. Open, axial and selective coding was used as a method of data analysis. Ethical matters were always observed.

The results indicate that there is a strong difference of perception of an addictologist. If addictologist is to be viewed as a specialist in addictions to alcohol and drugs, then there is no shared opinion that addictologist is a necessary element of the therapeutic team. On the other hand, there is a favour of the therapeutic team to integrate the position into the team if addictologist could play a role not only as a specialist in addiction but also as a social worker. Complexity of an addictologist contribute to the efficiency of the whole therapeutic team.

This study is one of the first studies analysing the employment of an addictologist in eating disorders treatment services. Although the results seem to be very contentious, more space should be devoted to the actual capability of the addictologist to work as a mediator among different professions working in addiction prevention and treatment.

Key words

Addictologist - dual diagnosis – multidisciplinarity - eating disorders - employability