

Abstract:

Background: Recreational usage of cocaine in Prague has been increasing in the last few years, especially in the population of young adults within social events. Prevalence (the percentage of population affected by certain conditions or diseases in specific time frames) of cocaine use amongst students in universities and colleges has not yet been researched in Czech Republic.

Aim: The main aim is to map the prevalence of cocaine use amongst students in universities and colleges of Prague. Secondly, research aims to pattern of usage and difference in prevalence of cocaine use given the difference between their field of study.

Methods: The data was collected through quantitative questionnaire survey. In total 1366 surveys were collected. This is compiled 554 surveys were conducted from bachelor students, 594 from master students and 218 from college students.

Results: From results, we can see that lifetime prevalence of cocaine use in population of students in universities and colleges of Prague is 22 %. 42 % of students that used cocaine had used cocaine in the last year and 34 % of students used cocaine in the last thirty days. Usage of cocaine is more prevalent at field of art studies, with 46 % of students having experience with cocaine in contrast with fields of studies such as technologies and IT or medical and health care, the experiences with usage of cocaine reaches only 13 % in both cases.

Conclusions and recommendations: In conclusion, the questionnaire survey mapped experiences with usage of cocaine amongst students in universities and colleges of Prague. This research can be a foundation for more thorough analysis in areas regarding the relationship of students and use of cocaine, patterns of use and reasons for using in the first place.

Key words:

cocaine - university - college - recreational usage - experimental usage - students