

Abstract

Background: The region of Ústí nad Labem has long been at the forefront of the prevalence of substance abuse; it is likewise specific for the occurrence of other negative social phenomena. The studies carried out in the region of Ústí nad Labem point to the fact that addictology issues are a current problem that deserves special attention as the target group of pedagogical-psychological counselling is children who consider themselves vulnerable to risky behaviour. The pedagogical-psychological counseling center is the main partner of schools and school facilities and the role of the prevention methodologist lies not only in the coordination of school prevention methodologists, but also in mapping the occurrence of risky behavior for the creation of remedial programs and risky behavior prevention programs. There is just one addictology clinic in the whole region, focusing on the target group of children and adolescents. The motive for the topic of the work was also the fact that the studies focused on the applicability of an addictologist in education have not yet been carried out in the Czech Republic.

Aims: The main aim of this bachelor thesis is to map the characteristics of the profession of addictologist in pedagogical-psychological counselling (PPC) in the region of Ústí nad Labem (RUL). The work aims to map the current state of occurrence of risky behaviour of addictology issues in the PPC in RUL and the benefits of cooperation of addictologists in PPS with regard to the identification of barriers to this cooperation.

Methods: The research is based on a qualitative approach. The research sample was obtained by deliberate selection. All 11 PPCs of the RUL were addressed. In the final phase, 9 of them participated. Of these, two facilities were represented by one worker. The research group consisted of 7 employees - prevention methodologists in the PPC of the RUL. A semi-structured interview was used as a method of data collection. The data were analyzed by coding, categorization and subsequent description with specific examples of respondents' statements. Ethical issues were adhered to.

Results: In the study, bullying and relationships in the class were identified as the most common types of risky behavior. The incidence of the risk of addictive behavior fell to the last rung. The prevention methodologists in the pedagogical-psychological counseling in the Ústí nad Labem region showed minimal information about the field of addictology and the profession of an addictologist, as well as low knowledge of addictology issues. The study mapped the possible benefits and activities that an addictologist could perform in the environment of a pedagogical-psychological counseling center in the Ústí nad Labem Region. The characteristics of the addictologist's activities included counseling, cooperation with the school, implementation of preventive activities and in most cases also screening, early intervention and long-term cooperation with the family and the child. It turned out that it is necessary to pay attention not only to the target group of children and parents, but also to the staff of the pedagogical-psychological counseling center and the staff in education. The most popular was full-time cooperation. Finance and legislation were identified as factors that could complicate the work of an addictologist in pedagogical-psychological counseling.

Conclusion: The results of the work can help open a dialogue between the specialization of addictologist and the school environment. A space was identified for the possible work of an addictologist in a school facility such as a pedagogical-psychological counselling centre, where the multidisciplinary nature of the addictologist profession could be supplemented by the professional team of this institution with the intention of streamlining the care system for an early diagnosis as well as intervention in children and adolescents and for the coordination of primary prevention.

Key words: Addictologist – Competencies – Pedagogical-Psychological Counselling Centre – Employability – Ústí region