Summary

This final thesis deals with the anthropological profile of children with ADHD (attention deficit hyperactivity disorder), which is one of the most common psychiatric diagnoses in childhood. Many studies have demonstrated the relationship of ADHD to differences in physical growth, mostly in terms of growth retardation and lower weight parameters. However, these differences are often associated with the use of pharmacological treatment. Some authors point to the possibility of the influence of ADHD itself.

In this paper we compare the anthropometric parameters of the 40 boys with ADHD from 6.00 to 10.99 years of age who are treated with medication (methylphenidate) and 172 boys of control group. The compilation of control group for use in clinical research of ADHD was one of the objectives of the thesis. We also compared anamnestic data obtained using questionnaires. It provided information such as birth parameters, duration of breastfeeding, eating habits, amount of time spent in physical activity, or time spent watching television.

The control group of healthy individuals was established to better reflect the somatic profile of recent child population and also provided the anamnestic data. Against currently used growth standards control group showed some significant differences, which could be caused by a secular trend, particularly in body height and body weight and significant differences in the proportion of components of body composition. When comparing the group of boys with ADHD and control group, boys with ADHD showed significantly lower body height, leg length, head circumference, abdominal circumference, mid thigh circumference and lower muscle mass in body composition. Higher values were found in the width of the humeral epiphysis. Significant differences were also found in anamnestic data on eating habits, number of siblings, duration of breastfeeding and physical activity. Boys with ADHD often skipped dinner but ate more food out of other basic five meals a day. They were breastfed less time and had a rather smaller number of siblings. They also spent less time on physical activity. There was shown a relationship of some anamnestic data with components of body composition in control group. Birth complications, birth order and eating extra food positively correlated with the percentage of body fat. Mother's education, start time feeding the child and selectivity in food negatively correlated with the percentage of body fat.

The results supported the hypothesis about the specific differences of somatic growth in relation to the syndrome of ADHD. Further differences were also found in the anamnestic data that is necessary to examine more closely in future studies.

Keywords: ADHD, anthropological profile, somatic characteristics, anamnestic data, body composition, birth parameters, dietary and exercise habits.