

ABSTRACT
**ANALYSIS OF THE PHARMACY WORKERS' ATTITUDE TO HOMEOPATHY
AND HOMEOPATHIC SELF-TREATMENT IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

Student: Formánková, M.

Tutor: Marešová, H.

**Department of Social and Clinical Pharmacy, Faculty of Pharmacy in Hradec Králové,
Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic**

Background: The diploma-thesis analysis patients' and pharmacists' motivation to homeopathy and homeopathic self-treatment in the Czech Republic, considering and discussing results of available researches focused on patients' and physicians' relation to this art of medical treatment. Motivation to the research on this topic is to prove hypotheses assuming the rising patients' consideration of this healing method on one side and the stagnating conservative attitude of conventional physicians on the other.

Aim: The main objective of this work is to analyze consideration of homeopathic treatment among pharmacists and their patients. Another goal is to characterize the groups interested in this kind of treatment.

Methods: The interviewed group of focus consisted of pharmacists (men and women) of all age-groups and levels of education. The survey took place in 12 of 14 regions of the Czech Republic. The questionnaire was filled out by 134 respondents. The acquired set of data was submitted to frequency analysis and confidence interval calculation.

Results: Analysis of gained data confirmed all original hypotheses. High rate of pharmacists were interested in homeopathy as an eligible healing method or as a supplementary instrument of natural medication (80 %). Equivalent number of respondents (79 %) had already experience with this art of treatment. Majority of interviewees described their experience as positive (77 %). The results of survey indicate the rising concernment for homeopathy together with rising age of the professionals interviewed. No differences in concernment depending on respondents-professionals' sex was observed. The survey results show high rate of patients' concernment for homeopathy as well. The groups with very high level of interest are mothers with children (69 %) and women in general (59 %). High percentage of them use a homeopathic medicine on recommendation of a professional (65 %) or on their own initiative (63 %). Homeopathic medicine is in majority of cases used to treat influenza and common cold (79 %). Respondents describe homeopathic also as an appreciated

supplement in the maternity and lactation period. The attitude of conventional physicians to homeopathy remains rather conservative and disapproving according to the survey's results.

Conclusion: The results of the survey indicate a positive attitude of pharmacists to the homeopathic treatment and their willingness to introduce this kind of treatment to their patients. The concernment for this healing method is rising also among patients. Considering the limits of this work and subjective methodics chosen, the results may be interpreted as illustrative only. In order to reach for more complex perspective of concernment for homeopathic treatment among the society, I recommend to extend the set of individuals interviewed and to include more social groups.