

Klíčová slova: harm reduction - sociální služba - zdravotní péče - adiktolog

Abstract

Objective: The study is a institutional analysis of harm reduction services in the Czech Republic: possibilities and limits of providing health care in their context and the state of readiness on a combination of health and social services to different target groups.

Background: In the Czech Republic, there is currently a network of harm reduction services, especially for users of illegal drugs. These centres and programs are very different in provided services, procedures, conditions for providing care and also in the status (registered social service x registered medical service x unregistered service). By analyzing the current status of harm reduction services, we can outline possible future development.

Research file: The study was addressed to all contact centers and outreach programs for drug users in the Czech Republic (N = 96). Information will be provided by competent persons, mostly from senior staff.

Methods: Data collection was conducted through a questionnaire survey. The questionnaire is structured, divided into 3 parts. If necessary, we will use the possibility of telephone interviews and analysis of documents.

Contribution of the work: Achieved results may facilitate orientation in discussed possibility of implementing harm reduction activities into health care, that would actually support further multi-source fundings of these services.

Results: Harm reduction services in Czech Republic, outreach programs and contact centers are essentially provided out of the healthcare system. Only three facilities are registered as medical facility. Still, the majority of facilities provide the medical services, such as medical treatment (90% of all facilities/programs) or tests on infectious diseases (approximately 68% of all facilities/programs). Both types of social services employ usually social workers. The medical staff represents only a minority. The interest in change of status (i.e., the transformation) shows half of participating facilities. Only a quarter of all facilities do have sufficient information about the benefits and disadvantages that would bring the aforementioned change of the status. The result showed that facilities/programs do not particularly prepare for the transformation. They do not show much interest in enlarging the set of potential clients, even though it would bring new corresponding fundings.

Keywords: Harm reduction - Social services - Health care - Adictologist