

Anotation

The aim of this thesis is to draw attention to the issue of medical drug and addictive substance abuse in the old age. It describes the bio-psycho-socio-spiritual changes and needs of the elderly which are often connected with the start of harmful use of medical drugs. It lists the substances which are most commonly abused in the old age and it demonstrates the theory by means of concrete casuistries. Overuse of and addiction to addictive substances is not investigated enough by either addictology, geriatrics or social work. The aim of this thesis is to discuss the whole problem area from the point of view of social work, which should be paying more attention to it.