Abstract

Health of homeless people is worse in comparison with the general population and despite the guaranteed equal right to health and the crucial role of basic health services in the concept of health care barriers are found. These barriers appear in the availability of treatment by conventional dentists in Prague. The aim of this work is to evaluate the (un)availability of dental care, how different are the accesses of homeless dental and conventional dental practices to homeless patients. Next aim of the work is why are homeless people refused from accessing dental care. Last aim deal with the influence of the unavailability of dental care in the overall health of homeless people. Qualitative methods of semi-structured and expert interviews research used in the empirical part had shown that the unavailability of dental care lies mainly in the stigmatization of the homeless as well as in the existence of health risks. The main difference from a specialized dentistry resides in the absence of charges, positive attitudes and expectations of risks. The rejections of homelesses are in the conventional surgery based on the lack of evidence, stigma and fear of the risks of treatment. The unavailability of dental care can carry a profound impact on the overall health of homeless people and even lead to death.