

ABSTRACT

Alcoholics Anonymous is the largest and best-known self-help organization. In the Czech Republic, neither its position nor its number and characteristics of its members are known yet. Therefore it is necessary to learn more about them. There is a supervised therapy, as well as AA. Is it possible to find a connection between these "different" approaches to alcohol addiction therapy?

The theoretical part contains a description of alcohol addiction, information about the system of medical care for alcoholics and information on the current situation in the Czech Republic. The most important information is described in the chapter on Alcoholics Anonymous fellowship. The main research objective is to describe the characteristics, behavior and motivation of all AA groups in Prague and possibly find out which place can AA hold in the system of addictology services. In accordance with the objective five research questions were specified. Data were collected through a questionnaire and subsequently analyzed using mathematical and statistical techniques with the help of IBM SPSS Statistics 20 software. The questionnaire was composed of 19 questions. Respondents were nominated by a total group selection. The survey covers all groups of Alcoholics Anonymous based in Prague. The research sample consisted of 34 respondents.

Among the most important results is that the absolute majority of AA members are people aged over 31 years with secondary and tertiary education. In the past, 85% of them underwent a therapy in alcohol addiction therapy specialized medical facilities. It was mostly an residential treatment. An Average time of abstinence of the AA members is 74 months. Which is quite coincided with their attendance to AA. Most members visit the community once per week. The main motivation is the abstinence and social and psychological support. 71% of individuals were recommended to attend AA in the therapy facility.

Furthermore, the results show that for certain types of people, AA has irreplaceable role in the system of addictology services. The AA is being scored 72% in average by its members as the way to successful abstinence.

Extensive awareness and wider publicity to the society would be required in order for AA to find its place and a clear significance in the Czech republic.