

Abstract

The aim of this diploma thesis is to describe cooperation with clients / users of methamphetamine with a severe psychiatric disorder from the schizophrenic spectrum using case management methods.

The theoretical part summarizes current knowledge of the negative consequences of using methamphetamine, focussing on serious psychiatric comorbidity from the schizophrenic spectrum. It includes research of current studies (both Czech and foreign), information on specific comorbid diagnoses and a description of the case management method, including its specific application within the SANANIM addictology ambulance.

The practical part contains three case studies structured into six sections: (1) Initiation of the program entry, (2) The first contact and setting, (3) Entrance evaluation and indication, (4) Establishing a relationship and developing cooperation, (5) Cooperation with other experts and stakeholders (6) The results of cooperation focussed on changes in relation to: comorbid illness, severity and frequency of use of a primary drug and other addictive substances, social situation and relational healing.

I chose AA SANANIM clients by a deliberate targeting method based on the following criteria: (1) 7-month co-operation with a minimum of 28 personal contacts (roughly equivalent to once a week), (2) dependency issues diagnosed as harmful use or methamphetamine dependence; (3) with the presence of severe psychiatric comorbidity – a psychotic illness from the schizophrenia spectrum.

Since it is a very small set of clients, the results cannot be generalized. However, recommendations can be found for practice with a target group and inspiration for further exploration of the topic as it is a relatively young and growing area of addictological services.