

Abstract

INTRODUCTION: Despite the unique status of methamphetamine on the Czech drug scene, where the number of problem MA users accounts for 3/4 of all problematic drug users, there is a minimal amount of literature in the literature on how to work with this target group in the addictological care system.

OBJECTIVE: The practical part was to monitor the work and access to methamphetamine users in the selected k-centers. Attention was paid to presenting KC clients, perception of key motives in each phases of drug use trajectories, the process of working with clients from first contact to eventual mediation of treatment and description of the specifics of access to MA users.

METHOD: The chosen sample was selected on the basis of deliberate targeted selection through the institution. The data were collected by semi-structured interview, which was fixed with audio recording and subsequently transcribed. The patterns capture method as used to analyze the data.

FILE: The research sample consisted of eight communication partners (four men). They were employees of selected k-centers, always one worker per facility, from different regions of the Czech Republic, with various length of experience in field (2,5 to 16 years).

RESULTS: KC clients are mostly MA users, often polyvalent users, combining MA with other substances, most commonly marijuana, alcohol and pathological gambling, less often with BZD and opiates, especially substitution preparations and raw opium. There were listed groups of users with special needs, namely Roma and gay community. In area of work and client access, differences were seen, among other things by the size of the service. All respondents stated that they do not apply a specific approach to MA users, whereas they are working individually with each client with regards of their current needs. However, the specificities of the MA users, which assume a different approach, were observed.

CONSLUSION: This work provides a unique insight into everyday work with methamphetamine users and responds to the need for mapping the treatment of MA users in the spectrum of key addictology services.

KEY WORDS:

Methamphetamine – low-threshold contact center – psychosocial interventions – drug use trajectories - attitude