

## **Abstract**

**Background:** Providing of addiction consulting for smoking cessation in inpatient services for substance users is a controversial topic for professionals in the whole field of addictology. Foreign professionals focus on this topic more, which can be proven by studies confirming the advantages of concurrent treatment of tobacco and another substance addiction.

**Aim:** The main aim of this study is to find out if addiction consulting for smoking cessation is being provided to substance users in therapeutic communities in the Czech Republic and if yes, how is it being done. A partial goal is to discover the obstacles and reasons that prevent providing addiction consulting for smoking cessation in therapeutic communities.

**Methods:** The research is based on a combination of qualitative and quantitative approach. The research sample was obtained through the method of selective sampling. Online questionnaires were used in the quantitative part and semi-structured interviews in the qualitative part. Altogether, 14 therapeutic communities were involved. The online questionnaires were filled by 10 employees and 2 semi-structured interviews were conducted.

**Results:** A study with this topic hasn't yet been done in the Czech Republic, so this work provides unique results and background for discussion, which should be opened in the network of the Czech addiction services. This study has shown that 9 out of the 14 approached therapeutic communities for substance users (64 %) do not provide addiction counselling for smoking cessation. The most common given reason was workers' belief it is not the priority focus of the treatment. It was found out that those services that provide a programme for smoking cessation prefer individual form of consulting with a possible pharmacological support.

**Conclusion:** A difficulty and uncertainty could be observed in the way how workers deal with this topic while collecting data so this work could be an inspiration for them in practice because of the high proportion of smokers among addictological clients and the high mortality caused by smoking.

**Keywords:**

smoking – tobacco – addiction – counseling – intervention – residential treatment