

Abstract

Title: Utilization of Modern Methods of Immobilization (casts), at Individuals with an Injury of Locomotive System, in The Czech Republic

Objectives: The main objective of this thesis is to bring an actual information about proportion of using casts, in comparison with other methods of conservative immobilization, at individuals with an injury of locomotive system, in The Czech Republic. Moreover, the work aims to identify 3 most frequent reasons for using cast and 3 reasons for not using it.

Methods: There is a sample of respondents, selected from professionals dealing with a treatment of locomotive system (n = 204). The sample consists of medical doctors working in hospitals (n = 67) as well as doctors working in out-patient ambulatory care segment (n = 137). With respect to doctors specialization, the sample consists of surgeons (n = 141) and orthopaedists (n = 63). Selection of the sample of respondents was randomized. Data were gathered by telephonic questioning (interview). Based on quantitative analysis of the data, both - relative usage of casts and three reasons supporting or limiting its utilization - were identified. The questionnaire was finalized, with respect to outcomes of an initial pilot study (n = 4). Respondents for the pilot study were chosen by quote selection.

Results: Plaster of Paris is used by surgeons and orthopaedists in 72% of cases, in The Czech Republic. The casts represent only 12% of all immobilizing applications. The rest 16% are solved by using other methods of immobilization. Most frequent reasons, supporting using of casts, are previous good experience with this treatment, concrete type of patient and injuries and inflammation of tendons. Most frequent reasons limiting in using casts are risk of compartment syndrom, poor modeling properties of casts and need to be applied by medical doctor.

Key words: synthetic cast, method, frequency of usage