

Abstract

Background: The beginning of 20th century was in our country favourable for dealing with alcoholic issues. T. G. Masaryk takes the lead of the country. He and most importantly his sympathizers are continuously concerned with this issue and as the psychiatric institutions are filled with alcoholics these days, an effort to establish specialised institutes for alcoholism treatment is made.

Aims: To map the beginning of institutionalized alcohol treatment in our territory. Describe the activities and ideas of main representatives and founders of institutional treatment of alcoholism of that time, namely MUDr. Jan Šimsa, Bedřich Konařík and Prof. Břetislav Foustka.

Methods: A qualitative content analysis of documents that were available on given topic and their comparison was used for data collection. Afterwards, an analogy of obtained information was accomplished.

Results: MUDr. Jan Šimsa, Bedřich Konařík and prof. Břetislav Foustka were very occupied with issue of addiction and excessive consumption of alcohol. At the beginning of 20th century a spread of anti-alcohol movement and establishment of constitutional hospitals in the same spirit arises.

Key words: alcohol, addiction, treatment, sanatorium, Bohemia, 20th century