

Abstract

Background: The use of addictive substances in pregnancy and motherhood is a problem of working with a specific clientele that is in addictology services in the Czech Republic and in the world subject of the solution. There are barriers for female users to enter treatment services due to condemnation of society, fear of the child being taken from the mother and also feelings of guilt. Use of addictive substances have adverse consequences for the healthy development of the fetus and the psychosocial development of the child. In the bachelor thesis I process the specifics of women-mothers users, use in pregnancy and use in motherhood, the consequences of substance abuse for the fetus, childbirth and breastfeeding and risks for the child. Further I present information from some Czech and foreign studies that deal with the given issues. The research part presents our own research, which was carried out in the spring of the year 2021 with ten mothers.

Aim: The aim was to find patterns of substance use in the period immediately before pregnancy of users and changes during pregnancy and in early motherhood up to one year Child Using Research Questions: How has substance abuse changed in women when they found that are they pregnant How women's use, experience, and thinking changed during each phase pregnancy and early motherhood? How did the motivation of women change during the study period?

Methodology: Data acquisition was done by using a semi-structured interview with 10 users addictive mothers who have long used alcohol, cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine and tobacco, and they use the substances during pregnancy or maternity or in both periods simultaneously, the mothers were abstinent for more than 3 months.

Results: The research provides knowledge about the behavior, thinking and experience of pregnant women and mothers with addiction to addictive substances. The respondents were abstinent at the time of the interviews in the care of an aftercare center or infant institute. Experiences have been shared by users retrospectively and focused on the period just before the pregnancy was detected, during pregnancy and in early motherhood up to one year of the youngest child.

Recommendation: The need to increase the confidence of mothers - users in treatment facilities, to reduce barriers to entry into treatment and reduce the impact on the child's development.

Key words: patterns of behavior - substance use - pregnancy - early motherhood