

Abstract

One of the main control mechanisms used by employment, school facilities or addictology services is testing for addictive substances. This tool is very important for diagnostic institutes and other organizations providing care and basic needs for entrusted children and adolescents in institutional and protective education. Main purpose of mentioned institutions is to ensure health and safety of their wards, maintain supervision of their school attendance and supervision of their compliance with internal regulations of the school and the institution.

Main goal of the study is to map the versions of the standard process across all diagnostic institutes in the Czech Republic, compare these versions with legislative and afterward create recommendations and proposals, which could lead to change or make the work of employees in institutional education more effective.

Study was conducted in a form of qualitative research, which was carried out through a series of interviews. The interviews were based on semi-structured type. All of the respondents gave their consent for creating a recording of their interview. For the study recordings were transcribed and edited. Furthermore, an analysis of legislation and internal regulations of diagnostic institutes was performed.

The main research questions focused on the description of the current legislation in this area, description of the process and personal opinions of respondents. The focus was pointed towards opinions about the testing for presence of addictive substances and possible recommendations for better quality and efficiency of their work.

The research shows that legislation partially regulates the possibility for tentative testing for presence of addictive substances. Also the possibility for employment medic in a diagnostic institute or school facilities is partially regulated. However a more detailed specification for both is missing. Based on responses in our study respondents perceive the current state of legislation as unsatisfactory. Opinion that current legislation does not properly fulfill its function was most common.

Nearly 85 % of respondents stated, that they have their wards tested. Mostly because of their suspicion, that the child used addictive substance or if an indicated individual arrive from a long-term pass. Sampling and testing is mostly performed by a medic working directly in the diagnostic institute, but in some cases it is also a pedagogical worker.

The final recommendation is the amendment of Act no. 109/2002 Coll., On Institutional Education or Protective Education in School Facilities. We propose that all issues listed below could be addressed here in detail. Listed issues contain the possibility of tentative testing of wards and all of the associated tasks for employees, the possibility of employing a medic and the creation of an educational program, which would train employees on these issues.

Key words: Adolescents, children, testing, addictive substances, legislative, institutional education