

Abstract

Background: In 2012, there were massive poisonings with harmful alcohol laced with methanol throughout the Czech Republic. As a result of intoxications, not only death but also damage of health of various degrees occurred. The event, which directly endangered public health, brought new experience and, among other things, confirmed the thesis accepted in professional circles that no way of consuming alcohol is necessarily safe or even beneficial to health, which is why there is a need to change the approach to alcohol.

Aim: The aim of the bachelor thesis was to briefly describe the development of selected legislative regulations aimed at reducing alcohol consumption on our territory from the establishment of the independent republic to the present day and to describe the procedure and measures applied by state administration authorities during methanol poisonings and the effects of this phenomenon on the further development of legislation in the context of the event.

Methods: Content qualitative analysis of written materials was used. In the first place, suitable documents issued by state administration bodies, legal regulations published in the Collection of Laws and media communications were selected. The obtained data were subsequently subjected to a qualitative content analysis, on the basis of which a cross-sectional study of selected legal regulations governing alcohol issues with a focus on methanol poisoning was created.

Results and conclusion: The results show that the measures were taken in a coordinated manner, with a focus on reducing the incidence of further poisonings, with the focus on prohibitive measures to protect consumers. The work of law enforcement agencies played an important role. In the field of epidemiology, recommended practices were subsequently published based on an evaluation of the cost-effectiveness of various treatment approaches. Legislation after the poisonings focused in particular on the elimination of the illicit market in alcohol, which was a source of problematic alcohol. The issue of protecting health from the harmful effects of alcohol has become part of strategic drug policy materials. The summary of the thesis can serve to broaden the reader's legal awareness in the field of regulation of alcohol consumption, spirits and alcohol quality. Awareness of the issue can be used in planning interventions and strategies of various types in the field of alcohol at different levels of government. It can also be of practical use in direct work with addiction clients in the application of prevention approaches and risk education.

Key words: methanol, poisoning, prohibitoin, public health

