

## **Abstract**

**Background:** The diploma thesis deals with the topic of prisons as a risky environment in relation to the transmission of infectious diseases. The condom distribution in prison settings is one of possible harm reduction interventions in terms of preventing the transmission of infectious diseases among prison population and in general society.

**Aims:** The aim of the work is to map the availability and distribution of condoms and its perception from the prisoners' point of view in Prague-Pankrác Prison, where the distribution took place. The work also deals with the risky behaviour of convicts, through which infectious diseases are transmitted.

**File:** The group of respondents consists of prisoners who served their sentences in two randomly selected wards where condoms were distributed. The data were collected in two waves, in which a total of 160 and 190 prisoners participated. The composition of the sample changed during the research due to the natural fluctuation of people who were accused and convicted in prisons and, in addition, due to a change in the law on the execution of sentences of imprisonment.

**Methods:** The process evaluation was chosen for the research. A questionnaire study and a subsequent descriptive analysis of the data was performed. The first wave of data collection took place 1 month after the introduction of condom distribution on wards and the second wave took place 12 months after the introduction of distribution on the wards.

**Results:** The resulting data show that during the execution of the sentence some prisoners engage in behaviours which carry risks in relation to the possibility of infectious diseases. In both waves of the questionnaire survey, prisoners who obtained or used a condom at the time of distribution of condoms in the wards were noted. During the research, the prisoners' positive assessment of discretion in obtaining a condom increased, and conversely, the expectation or experience of negative consequences of distribution decreased. The most common motivation of prisoners to use a condom is health care, especially protection against the HIV. Of other harm reduction measures or material in prison, the respondents of both waves of data collection would most often state an interest in legal sterile tattoos.

**Conclusion:** Prisoners use the offered condom distribution. It can be seen from the results that during the research, there was a more positive perception of the distribution and availability of condoms by prisoners.