

ABSTRAKT:

Background: Kratom is becoming a more famous psychoactive substance in the Czech Republic. However the research fields is not that fast as its use so there are not many studies in czech describing kratom or its use across his users.

Aim: The aim of this master thesis is to findout patterns of drug use in regular useres from age 15 – 34..

Sample: The sample for this study is respondents aged 15 – 34 (young adults). The sample consisted of 10 respondents, 5 were women and 5 were men. The average age of the respondents was 27.2 years. The grat majority of respondents (N=9) are working and the last respondent (N=1) is still a student.

Methods: Target group is selected by snowball sampling method. Data will be obtained through semi-structured interview and screenings questionnaires. The method of pattern formula and tuft creation method will be used to analyze collected data. We assume that the result of the work will be not only findinnng patterns of kratom use, a description of its addiction or possible withdrawal syndrome, but also the elaboration of professional text

Results: Respondents use kratom at least once a week, but their frequency and amount of the substance varies. Those who use kratom only once a day use 2,5 – 3 g. Those who use it 2 – 4 times a day consume a dose of 7,5 – 20 g. Users consume the substance in the formo f a crushed powder mixed in water or flavoured juice. Most respondents use kratom alone at home, others at work with colleagues or with freinds. The expected effects for which kratom is consumed are mainly improvement of mood, reduction of tiredness, physical relaxation, increased enhance, better cognitive function and concentration at work, communication and reduction of pain. Insomnia, tiredness and low mood were the most common symptoms after kratom withdrawal. Most respondents experienced cravings.

Conclusion and recommendation: This study summarizes information about kratom, its use, dosage, neurobiology, risks and patterns of use among its users. The use of kratom in the Czech Republic is a growing phenomenon that carries significant risks. Its legal anchoring in the Czech Republic is not entirely clears, and it is therefore appropriate to focus not only on further study of its effects and risks in the general population, but also on its possible regulation or control in the area of the composition of this sunbstance.

Key words: kratom – patterns of drug use – *mitragyna speciosa* – regular user – withdrawal syndrome – semi-structured interview – kratom addiction