

Abstract

In my diploma thesis, I deal with description of the prevalence of use of twelve tobacco products in the population of Prague high school students. For these tobacco products, I am also investigating the differences in their use with regard to gender and type of school. Therefore, I am looking for differences in their use between girls and boys and between students of grammar schools and secondary vocational schools. In the most widely used products – combustible tobacco, electronic cigarettes without nicotine, electronic cigarettes with nicotine and heated tobacco, I also examine differences in the intention to use them in the future between girls and boys and between students of gymnasiums and secondary vocational schools. Furthermore, I deal with one of the most important determinants of smoking - the perceived harm of tobacco products and examine how the perceived harm of combustible tobacco, electronic cigarettes and heated tobacco affects their use and the intention to use them in the future by Prague adolescents. The main goal of my thesis is to demonstrate the relationship between the perceived harm of tobacco products and their use and intention to use them in the future. The data was obtained thanks to cooperation with secondary schools in the capital city of Prague, specifically in cooperation with school specialists of primary prevention. As a result of this collaboration, it was noted that there is no difference between girls and boys in the use of tobacco products except for the combustible tobacco, which is used more by girls than by boys. There is a difference in the use of each of the twelve products between grammar school students and secondary vocational school students, with secondary vocational school students using each of the products more than grammar school students. A difference in the intention to use tobacco products between girls and boys has also been demonstrated, for combustible tobacco, electronic cigarettes with nicotine and heated tobacco. For the e-cigarettes without nicotine, no difference in intention to use between girls and boys was observed. There was evidence of a difference in the intention to use tobacco products between grammar school students and vocational school students for all four described products. Furthermore, individuals who consider combustible tobacco, e-cigarettes, and heated tobacco to be harmful have been shown to be less likely to use them and to intend to use them in the future. I consider it important to deal with this topic because there are no studies in the Czech Republic that deal with the detailed prevalence of the use of tobacco products and perceived harm of tobacco products as a factor in the use and intention to use tobacco products.

Key words

Tobacco products, use, intention to use, perceived risk, adolescents, gender, type of school