

Abstract

Background: Availability of services is an important parameter of the addiction care system. In Slovakia, the network of addiction services of various types is probably not as developed as in the Czech Republic, but the availability of specialized addiction care in Slovakia has not yet been sufficiently mapped.

Aims: The aim of this bachelor thesis was to map all available addiction treatment services in Slovakia and also to map the structural characteristics of various types of addiction treatment and harm reduction services in Slovakia.

Methods: The research part of this theses first consisted of mapping all available addiction treatment services in Slovakia in cooperation with key informants. Subsequently, a research file was created, used in the second part of the research – in a questionnaire survey devoted to the characteristics of individual services. The obtained data were exported to the Microsoft Excel and processed into tables and charts.

Results: The results of the first part of the research showed that the network of addiction treatment services in Slovakia has significant shortcomings – mainly in terms of geographical accessibility for clients and the overall coverage of the various types of these services. On the other hand, the advantages of the addiction treatment services provided in Slovakia are that they are often provided free of charge, with no waiting lists and they are connected with other components of health and social services, which is very important for ensuring comprehensive care. A very small research sample participated in the questionnaire survey; therefore, the research results cannot be generalized to the entire network of services for drug addicts in Slovakia.

Conclusion: The bachelor's thesis provides an insight into the network of addiction treatment services in Slovakia. The results could be useful as a background for further research aimed at mapping the network of addiction treatment services in Slovakia, which would bring an even more accurate view of the current situation. Furthermore, the results of this research could be used in practice, in the further development of the network of the addiction treatment services in Slovakia.

Key words: addiction treatment services, availability, characteristics, addiction treatment, harm reduction, Slovakia