

The thesis concentrates on the examination of the current situation regarding the application of the HACCP principles in the school canteens in the region Sokolov. Data collection was proceeding over the year 2009 in the 20 canteens chosen at random (30% of the food service facilities in the region). The research focussed on the quality of the HACCP documentation, actual implementation of the stated principles and current level of hygiene quality in the canteens.

Only 4 out of 20 examined food service facilities (20 %) applied the principles in practice. In these canteens the presented HACCP documentation met the legislative requirements concerning the formal fulfilment as well as the content itself. Employees of these canteens responsible for the HACCP system proved to be well-informed about HACCP, put the system into practice correctly and had a positive influence over the canteen staff as regards to their active application of the HACCP principles. Employees of these facilities considered the HACCP principles as instructions helping them to keep the canteens hygienically safe as well as useful means enabling them to enforce the legitimate hygiene requirements. The facilities applying the HACCP principles were found hygienically safe, out of 16 remaining canteens only 1 canteen fully met the hygiene requirements.

Evaluation of the acquired results clearly proved the existence of the direct connection between the HACCP application and satisfying level of hygiene quality in the food service facility. Correct HACCP implementation depends on the deeper understanding of the foundation of this matter. It requires professional training as well as continual education of all the employees of the food service facilities. What plays an important part is also the personality of the head of the facility, his/her attitude to education, work in the HACCP system and positive motivation of all the colleagues. Correct HACCP implementation still presents a current issue not only for the practice of health surveillance profession but also for the educational activities of the specialists active in the sphere of public health protection.