

Abstract

Although there are about 500 000 of people with hearing impairment in Czech republic, a risk group of substance abuse due to determinants of this impairment, there are distinctive lack of studies focused on this theme in our state. There are few foreign studies offering some results, overall interest is still slender in this issue. This work was aimed to define the basic terms and briefly describe difficulties of hearing impairment, psychological aspects and patterns of drug use in hearing impaired population due to available resources and exploration and correlation questionnaire study. The study had a questionnaire form and was spread by snow ball method in first stage, through 8 basic subjects on social network called facebook.com and other forms of mass communication. In the second stage we used a purposeful selection at two schools for the hearing impaired in Prague. Participants were individuals with more than 20 dB hearing loss (includes) in both cases. The participation was no age or locally restricted. The result of theoretical and practical part is a fact, that drug using in hearing impaired population is on the same or maybe even higher level like in intact population. Due to this fact and communication barriers of hearing impaired individuals, it is required to involve a specialized services in primary, secondary and tertiary prevention of drug using, which could be able to reflect a cultural, social and psychological needs of D/deaf or otherwise hearing impaired, including the communication in their birth, sign language.

Key words: hearing disability, substance use, patterns of use, questionnaire study, exploration