

Abstract

This thesis deals with community mental health care. We focus on patients with affective disorders because we assume that community mental health care services would be salutary for some of them but these patients do not use the services yet. A theoretical part describes the mental health concept and its specification, both in conceptual materials of Czech organizations and in World Health Organization documents. The thesis analyses affective disorders, their social impact and community mental health care situation in the Czech Republic. An empirical part consists of two empirical researches, which are interrelated. The questionnaire survey among hospitalized patients with an affective disorder has been focused on the level of awareness of community mental health care services, on patients' interest in these services and on use of these services. The on-line survey has been conducted in Prague's community mental health care organizations to determine a proportion of clients with an affective disorder within these services and to determine the possibility of their placement. It turned out that most of interviewed patients with an affective disorder are not informed about the community health care services and therefore they don't use the services but they would be interested in it. We conclude that there are not enough places for patients with affective disorder in the community care services yet.

Keywords:

Mental health, Affective disorders, Mental health services system, Community mental health care, Stigma, Social rehabilitation