

Abstract

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Title of Doctoral Thesis Analysis of Selected Determinants of Drug Policy
in the Czech Republic

Introduction: Drug policy as part of health policy is an important factor affecting the efficiency of the health care system. Interest for the government is to realize the consumption of drugs in quantities which seeks to optimize the health of the patients. It should be avoided wasting drugs (high consumption of drugs) and deterioration of the health status of the population as a result of inadequate or obsolete treatment (low consumption of medicines). The aim of drug policy is to ensure safe, effective and quality medicines and to ensure optimal and accessible health care to people when required using limited funds.

Objectives: The main purpose of this thesis was to analyze the selected determinants of drug policy in the Czech Republic. Attention was especially focused on analyzing the relationships between drug policy, consumption of medicines and health services and the behavior of individuals within the health care system. Other aim of the thesis was to analyze the attitudes and opinions of Czech citizens on selected issues of self-medication, drug consumption, drug policy and the provision of health care and the analysis of the education system of pharmacists in drug policy issues.

Methods: According to the character of the survey was for each of the sub-projects used different methodology. In the pharmacies in Hradec Kralove was through the directed interview investigated the attitudes and opinions of patients to health and health care issues, their behavior in case of health problems, use and consumption of health care services and satisfaction with medical care. Electronic form of questionnaires was used for students and alumni the Faculty of Pharmacy in Hradec Kralove and also for authorized persons in charge of teaching socio-pharmaceutical courses in the worldwide survey of pharmaceutical faculties. Experiences and results of these pilot projects were used for

representative sociological surveys through the directed interviews and performed by trained interviewers according to the parameters required for this type of research all over the Czech Republic with the use of statistical methods allowing interpretation of the data valid for the Czech population as a whole.

Results and conclusion: The greatest impact for pharmacists for selection of medicinal product has their work experiences, the completely smallest advertisement of all kinds. The pricing of medicinal products assessed as too complicated. For pharmacists and citizens of the Czech Republic is the most important step in solving the current problems of drug policy establishment of uniform prices in all pharmacies in the Czech Republic. Most of Czech citizens before seeing a doctor attempting to self-medication. For Czechs is the main factor in choosing a pharmacy distance and availability of pharmacy – than price and quality of service. Most of citizens never noticed problems with using of OTC medicines. Understanding of the patient information leaflet is very good. Czechs spend (according to the findings of the survey) on average monthly CZK 149.8 for OTC medicines and CZK 143.0 for prescription drugs. These values are still one of the lowest participation in the OECD countries, but most of citizens perceive their participation as too high. While most pharmaceutical faculties has socio-pharmaceutical subjects in their curricula, there are many significant differences between regions in the representation of sub-disciplines related to economic, political and social environment of the region. Analysis of the curricula of faculties of pharmacy confirmed the importance of socio-pharmaceutical subjects and confirmed that the field is becoming increasingly important not only in relation drug-patient, but still significantly in relation drug-society.