

Available online at www.sciencedirect.com

ScienceDirect

journal homepage: <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/kontakt>

Original research article

Alcohol use, smoking and gambling in relation to immigrants of Ukrainian nationality in the Czech Republic



David Urban*

University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, Faculty of Health and Social Studies, Department of Social Work, České Budějovice, Czech Republic

ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received 12 February 2015

Received in revised form

11 June 2015

Accepted 22 September 2015

Available online 9 October 2015

Keywords:

Smoking

Alcohol

Playing winning automatic machines

Drugs immigrants

ABSTRACT

The following paper deals with one of the social determinants of health involving a target group of immigrants of Ukrainian nationality ($N = 237$) living in the Czech Republic. The author has focused on the areas pertaining to smoking, alcohol consumption, taking illegal substances (drugs) and playing gambling machines and these areas pertain to the relationship with the following monitored variables: gender, age, highest achieved education and subjective feeling of one's personal health status. The data have been collected by means of a questionnaire survey within the territory of the Czech Republic (quantitative research) and evaluated in SPSS 16.0 program. Pursuant to statistical measurements in the SPSS program, it can be stated that the variable regarding gender joins all the above-mentioned areas in formulating a statistically significant relationship. The other variables do not show any statistically significant relationship. Regarding the consumption of tobacco products, the follow-up file has shown similar numbers of smokers as was the case in the entire Czech Republic representation.

© 2015 Faculty of Health and Social Studies of University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice. Published by Elsevier Sp. z o.o. All rights reserved.

Introduction

On a worldwide scale, there are broad inequalities in health, both in terms of within one country and among countries that are visible. Increasing numbers of researches identify social factors as causes of these inequalities in the area of health [1]. Wilkinson and Marmot named on the whole, ten so-called social determinants which can influence the health of an

individual [2]. Many implemented research surveys and publications confirm the fact that the problems of social determinants of health are currently a matter of relative subjectivity. Selected areas of the social determinants of health have been published by e.g. Vacková et al. They deal with the question of subjective social status in groups of Ukrainians, Vietnamese and Mongolians living in the Czech Republic [3]. Similar topics have also been researched by the following authors who have focused on the problems of

* Correspondence to: University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, Faculty of Health and Social Studies, Department of Social Work, Emy Destinové 46, 370 05 České Budějovice, Czech Republic.

E-mail address: urban@zsf.jcu.cz

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.kontakt.2015.09.001>

1212-4117/© 2015 Faculty of Health and Social Studies of University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice. Published by Elsevier Sp. z o.o. All rights reserved.

migration and its influence on mental and physical health [4], or on the area of health determinants among immigrants [5].

The previously mentioned health determinants influencing health conditions also include: smoking, alcohol consumption and gambling [2]. The author deals with these topics and describes them in the selected target group, specifically the Ukrainian immigrants living in the territory of the Czech Republic, pertaining to the fact that it is the most numerous represented group of immigrants according to the nationality in the Czech Republic (according to ČSÚ 116,139 inhabitants of the Ukrainian nationality were in the Czech Republic in 2011) [6], and it is necessary to monitor the area of the social health situations in this target group.

Status quo

Smoking and alcohol consumption are the most common addictions and at the same time among risk factors and causes of many diseases. Alcohol consumption, usage of illegal drugs and cigarette smoking are closely connected with the indicators of individuals that are socially and economically disadvantaged. However, it is a vicious cycle because people tend to use alcohol and additional addictive substances in order to decrease problems resulting from their socioeconomic situation. At the same time, usage of these substances leads to even bigger problems and social disadvantage [2]. Smoking is connected with the occurrence of many serious diseases [7,8]. This includes both active and passive smoking [9]. A similar situation is also involved in the consumption of alcohol [10] or other illegal substances (drugs) [11].

Tobacco smoking is the most severe known and preventable risk factor influencing the occurrence, development and course of many disorders. Both active smoking and passive smoking cause illness and death in more than 20 different diseases [12]. Tobacco smoking is thus one of the most frequent causes of death [13]. Pursuant to mortality statistics in the Czech Republic, smoking is connected with 17,700 deaths on the whole during the year 2000, and every death related to smoking leads to an average loss of 15 years of life [14]. In the Czech Republic, 24.5% individuals (30% men and 19% women) smoke regularly every day, and 7.8% persons smoke occasionally. The average number of smoked cigarettes involving daily smokers is 16 cigarettes for men and 12 for women [15].

Among the next widespread addiction in the Czech Republic is from alcoholism and that also influences its user's health negatively in many ways. Based on research studies, it was proven that a relationship exists between alcohol consumption and mental and psychological illnesses and social harm [12]. In the Czech Republic, the total alcohol consumption is considerably high – 186 L per person in a year whereas the most considerable part is concerned with beer. The Czech Republic with 8.9% of the population as non-drinkers belongs globally among the nations with the highest alcohol consumption and alcohol consumption per capita is increasing year to year [16].

Materials and methods

This paper presents the partial results of the COST research with the title “Social determinants and their influence on

health of immigrants living in the Czech Republic” (Identification Number: LD 13044) which was financed by MŠMT within the COST project (Cooperation on Scientific and Technical Research, time of project solution: 2013–2015, main solver: doc. Mgr. et Mgr. Jitka Vacková, Ph.D.), whereas one of the monitored areas were addictions as social determinant of health. The goal of this paper is to present the results of the research file of Ukrainian immigrants concerning the consumption of alcohol, tobacco products and playing gambling machines which are further compared to age, employment, level of achieved education and one's subjective health evaluation.

The data were collected (quantitative research) by means of a questionnaire. The area of addictive substances (smoking, alcohol, drugs) were concerned with closed questions, as well as questions pertaining to drug use. The respondents had a further possibility of mentioning the name of drugs which they eventually consumed. Nevertheless, responses were not mentioned. That is the reason why I have worked with this question as a closed one. The area of subjective health evaluation was examined by means of Likert three-stage scale.

Results

The research file numbered 237 respondents of the Ukrainian nationality living in the Czech Republic. They consisted of 126 women (53%) and 111 men (47%). Regarding the age of the respondents, there were 63 respondents up to 30 years (27%), 145 respondents in the age between 31 and 50 years (61%) and 29 respondents between the age of 51 and older (12%). The most represented type of residence (127 respondents, 54%) was permanent residences, followed by long-term residences (78 respondents, 33%). The category of other types of residence (asylum, temporary stay, etc.) was indicated by 32 respondents (13%).

The category regarding the duration of the residences was mostly numerically represented by the respondents with a residence of over 5 years (77 respondents, 33%). A residence over 10 years was stated by 64 respondents (27%), to 5 years by 62 respondents (26%), over 15 years 28 respondents (12%) and 6 respondents did not give an answer.

The question whether the respondents smoked were answered by 140 (59.1%) negatively, 57 respondents (24.1%) positively and 26 respondents (11%) declared occasional smoking. The other respondents (14, i.e. 5.9%) did not answer the question (Table 1). Kruskal-Wallis test showed no statistically significant relationship between the age and smoking (sig. = 0.293).

33 respondents (13.9%) remain (gave an answer “more likely yes”), 95 respondents (40.1%) do not remain (gave an answer “more likely no”) and 75 respondents (31.6%) mentioned occasionally they stay in an environment with cigarette smoke. On the significance level 0.05 smoking is statistically significant dependent on the gender of the respondents ($p < 0.000$), whereas men smoke statistically significantly more often (57 respondents – regular smokers) than women (25 respondents – regular smokers). An additional statistically significant relationship ($p < 0.000$) was proven between gender and remaining in a smoke-filled environment,

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/1084416>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/1084416>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)