

## **Prevalence Estimates of Problem Drug Use in the Czech Republic - Summary**

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### **Abstract**

Problem drug use estimates carried out in the Czech Republic since 1999 are presented. Two standardised methods have been used – multiplier method and capture-recapture method. In addition – questionnaire survey among general practitioners was used to estimate opiate problem users in 2003.

Results available show decreasing trend in prevalence estimates. This finding is supported by the fact that estimates have been done by different independent institutions.

Very probably the spreading opioid agonist treatment and the flow of heroin users to this type of treatment, which is not sufficiently covered by the registers used for prevalence estimates, has an impact on decreasing estimates of problem drug users.

The number of estimated problem drug users ranges from 21 to 38 thousand persons. The most probable estimate is approx. 11 thousand of heroin users, 19 thousands of pervitin (methamphetamine) users, and 28 – 29 of injecting drug users.

Key words: prevalence estimate, problem drug use, methodology, multiplier treatment method, capture-recapture method, questionnaire survey, opioid agonist treatment