

Abstract

Background: Since 2010, medical professionals have been working to make cannabis available for medical use. In 2013 entered into force a public notice, which provides conditions for the handling of cannabis for medical use. In 2019 came into force a law, which regulates conditions for prescribing and reimbursing cannabis for medical use. In 2022 came into force an amendment of this law with minor changes.

Aims: The aim of the bachelor is to map the situation regarding the prescribing of cannabis for medical use in the Czech Republic. The aim is also to describe the history of cannabis as a medicine, the therapeutic effects of substances contained in cannabis, the methods of applying cannabis and the legislation and competence of doctors regarding prescribing too. The aim is to find out whether the effects that are described in the literature are the same in practice.

Methods: A qualitative study using a semi-structured interview was used for data collection. The respondents in the research became doctors who are authorized to prescribe medical cannabis and also actively prescribe it. The interview was recorded on a dictaphone and subsequently transcribed into MS Word. The transcripts were then analyzed using the bunching method.

Results: The administration of cannabis for therapeutic use to patients is very beneficial. Patient's health condition is improving, especially it relieves them of pain and improves their appetite. Reimbursement of medical cannabis in the Czech Republic is very favorable now, the health insurance company now reimburses 90 percent of the price of cannabis. Cannabis is processed for patients directly in pharmacies. Pills are most often prepared. Cannabis in pharmacies is quite well available in the Czech Republic.

Conclusion: Cannabis for medical use has been available in the Czech Republic for almost five years. During that time, cannabis legislation has evolved. 181 doctors currently have the right to prescribe cannabis in the Czech Republic. According to doctors, the only problem is the evidence operated by the State Institute for Drug Control(SÚKL). The benefit of the work should be the creation of another starting point in research on this topic.

Key words: medical cannabis - treatment – cannabis – doctor - qualitative study