



Národní monitorovací
středisko pro drogy
a závislosti

Problem Opioid Use and the Misuse of Opioid Analgesics in the Czech Republic

Viktor Mravčík

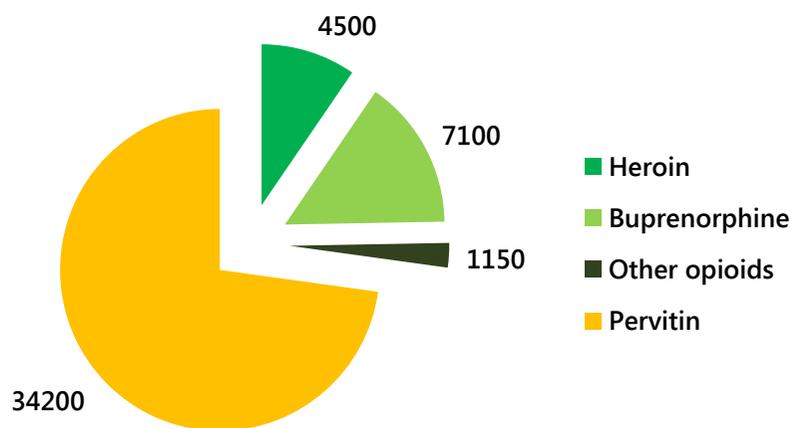
Pavla Chomynová

9 June 2017 | PDU expert meeting, EMCDDA, Lisbon

> Problem Drug Use (PDU) in 2015

in 2015 estimate of 46,900 problem drug users (6.68 per 1,000)

= long-term and/or regular and/or injecting use of drugs of opioid and/or amphetamine type (cocaine not included)



Source: Národní monitorovací středisko pro drogy a závislosti (2016a)

- > increase in misuse of opioid analgesics:
 - > fentanyl patches
 - > Vendal® Retard (morphine)
 - > Palladone® (hydromorphone)
 - > oxycodone

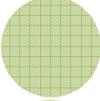
phenomenon of last years:
use of synthetic drugs from
the group of cathinones
(Funky) or phenethylamines

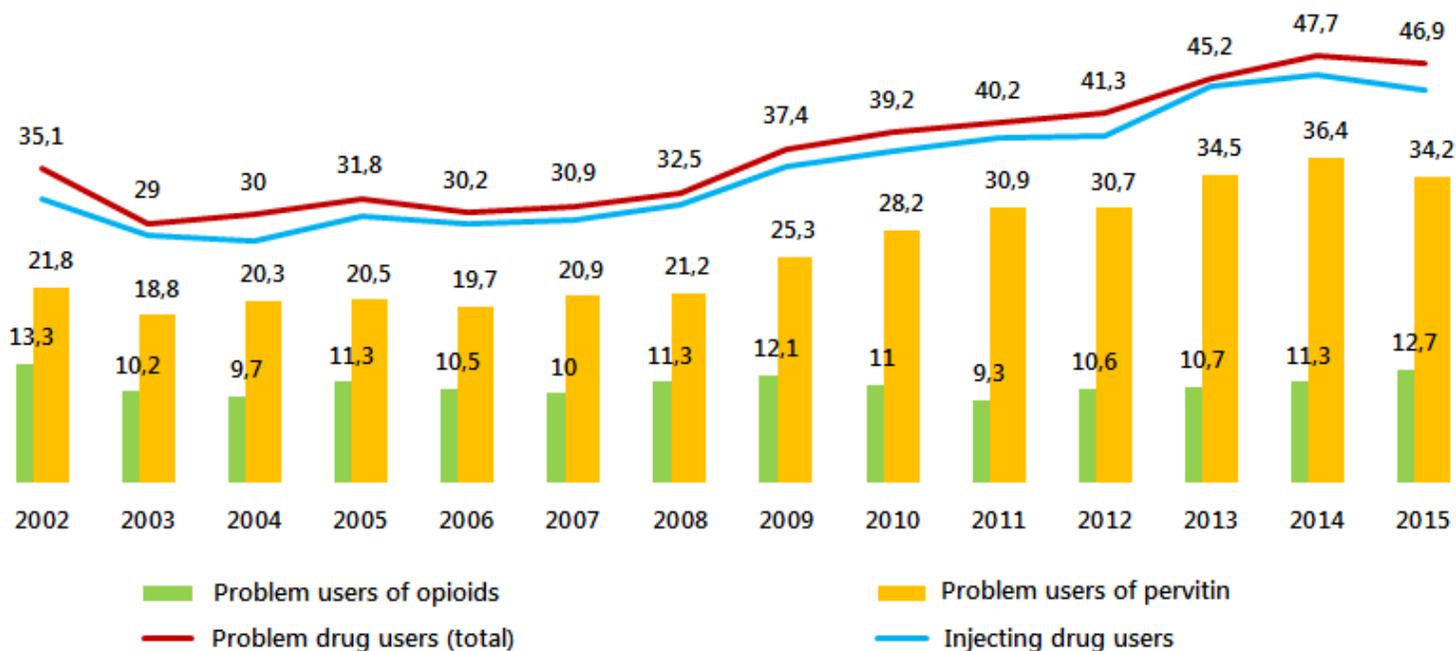
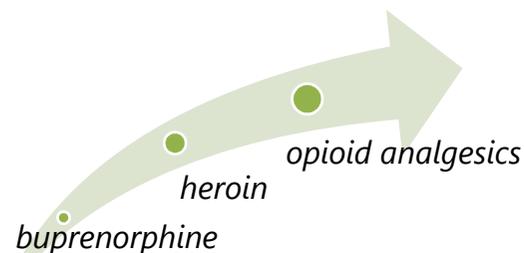
Estimate based on multiplier method from data from low-threshold centres

Multiplier gives a share of problem drug users who are in contact with low-threshold centres among all problem drug users (=0.69 in 2016).



> Problem Drug Use: Trends

-  **FOR THE FIRST TIME** decline in number of PDU and IDU
-  decline in number of pervitin users
-  increase in opioid users



Source: Národní monitorovací středisko pro drogy a závislosti (2016a)



Estimates of PDUs in the Czech Republic

Year	Problem drug users in total		Opioids users					Pervitin (methamphetamine) users		Injecting drug users	
	Number	Per 1,000 aged 15-64	Heroin	Buprenorphine	Other opioids	Total	Per 1,000 aged 15-64	Number	Per 1,000 aged 15-64	Number	Per 1,000 aged 15-64
2006	30,200	4.13	6,200	4,300	-	10,500	1.44	19,700	2.69	29,000	3.97
2007	30,900	4.20	5,750	4,250	-	10,000	1.36	20,900	2.84	29,500	4.01
2008	32,500	4.39	6,400	4,900	-	11,300	1.52	21,200	2.87	31,200	4.21
2009	37,400	5.04	7,100	5,100	-	12,100	1.63	25,300	3.40	35,300	4.75
2010	39,200	5.30	6,000	5,000	-	11,000	1.48	28,200	3.81	37,200	5.03
2011	40,200	5.51	4,700	4,600	-	9,300	1.27	30,900	4.24	38,600	5.29
2012	41,300	5.71	4,300	6,300	-	10,600	1.47	30,700	4.25	38,700	5.35
2013	45,200	6.32	3,500	7,200	-	10,700	1.50	34,500	4.82	44,400	6.22
2014	47,700	6.73	4,100	7,200	-	11,300	1.59	36,400	5.13	45,600	6.43
2015	46,900	6.68	4,500	7,100	1,150	12,700	1.81	34,200	4.87	43,900	6.25

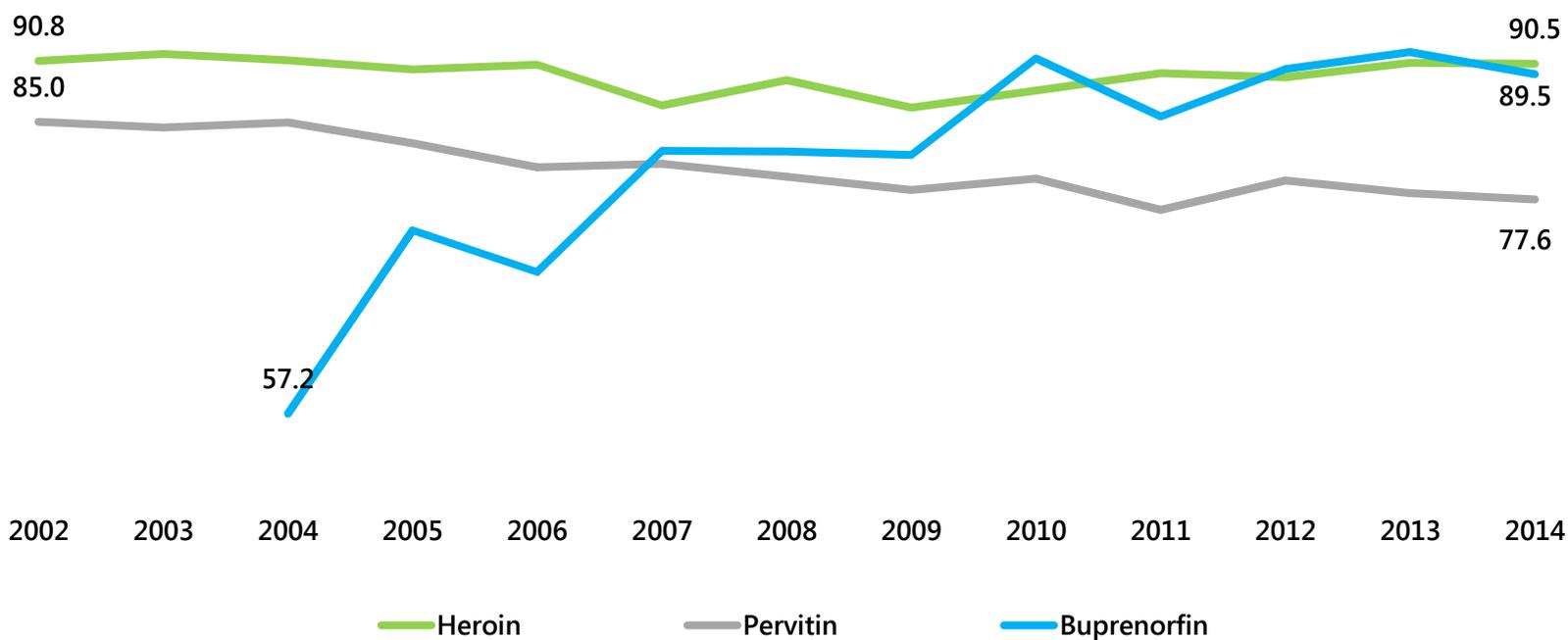
Source: Czech Annual Report on Drug Situation in 2015

43,900 injecting drug users (IDU) (approx. 90%)





Proportion of IDUs among PDUs in Treatment (TDI register), in %

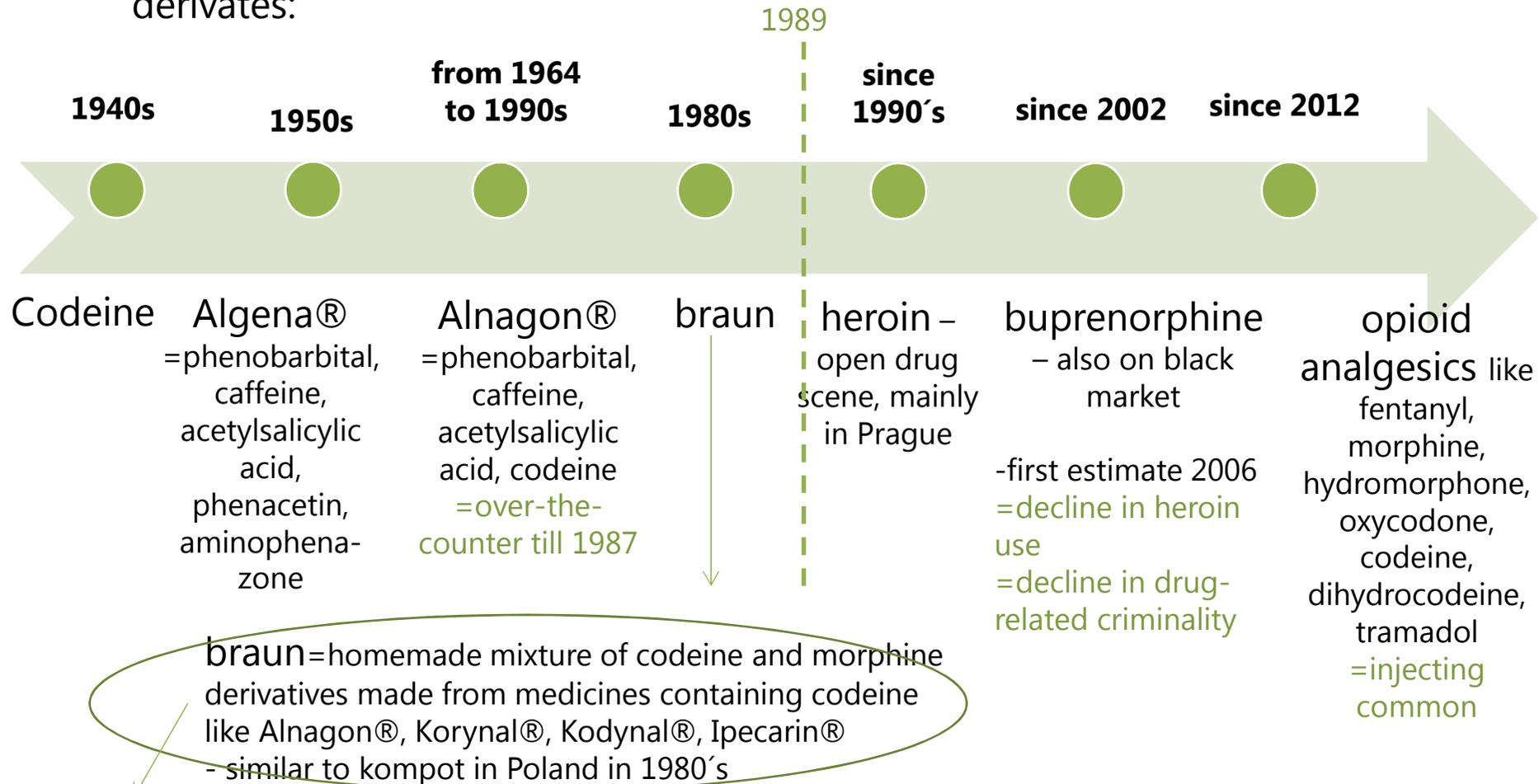


Source: Czech Annual Report on Drug Situation in 2014



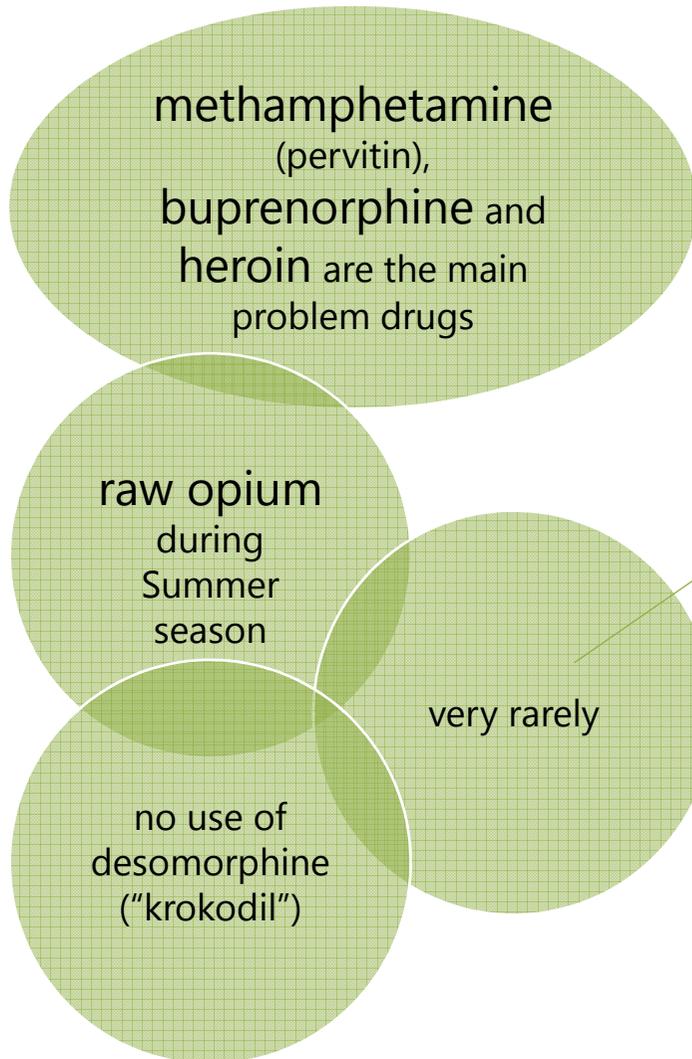
> Historical Perspective of Problem Use / Misuse of Opioid Analgesics

Before 1989: misuse of opioid analgesics, predominantly codeine and its derivatives:



Injecting of analgesics was common: braun but also Alnagon® tablets crashed and dissolved in water

> PDU / IDU Nowadays



- > increasing misuse of opioid analgesics:
 - > fentanyl patches
 - > morphine-based Vendal® Retard
 - > hydromorphone-based Palladone®
 - > oxycodone-based OxyContin®
 - > Codeine-based products (codeine, dihydrocodeine)
 - > tramadol

- > manufacture of „braun“ from codeine-based products (2 cases in recent years)
- > manufacture of heroin from raw opium or morphine-based products by acetylation (1 case)

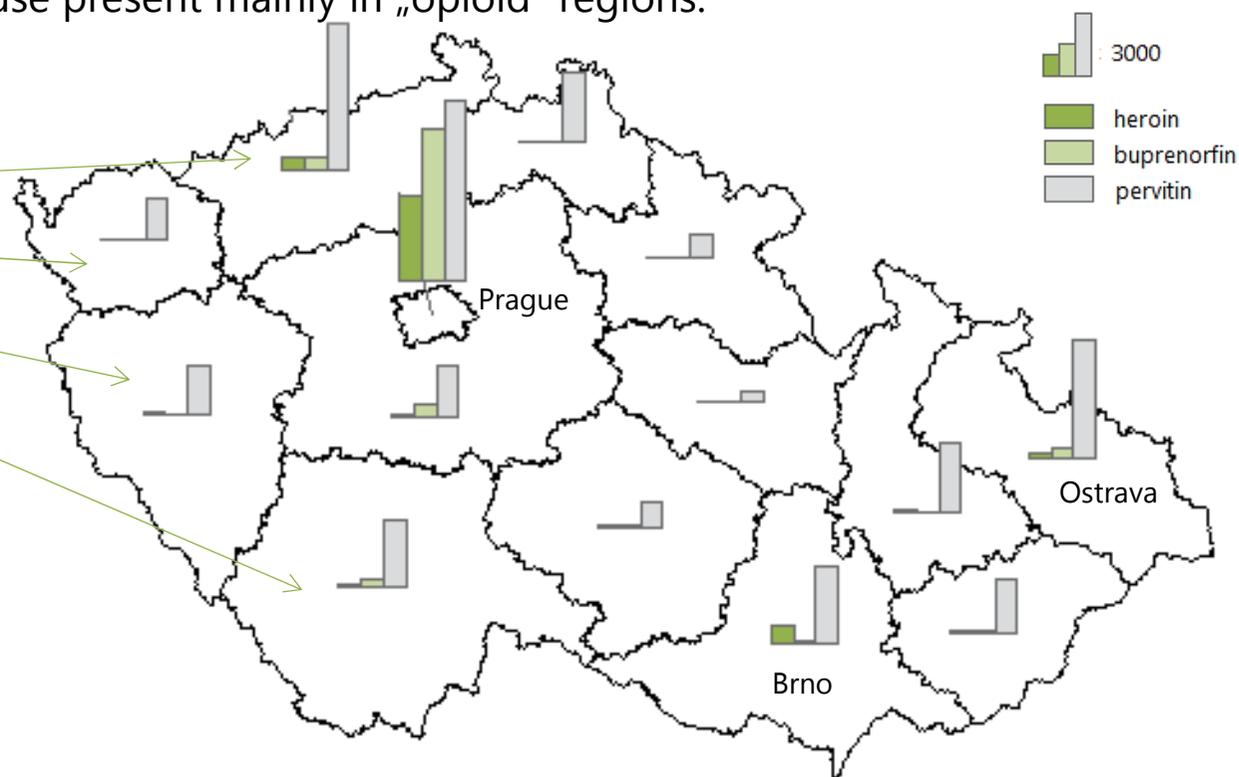
new synthetic drugs: some prevalence of cathinones (Funky) but not as primary drug
no use of new synthetic opioids (e.g. Fentanyl derivatives)



> Regional Differences in PDU

- > methamphetamine (pervitin) spread across the Czech Republic
- > opioids in Prague and in surrounding regions + other big cities
- > opioid analgesics misuse present mainly in „opioid“ regions:

- > Prague
- > Ústecký
- > Karlovarský
- > Plzeňský
- > Jihočeský



POUs by Regions and Coverage of OST in 2015 (Data on Officially Registered in OST)

Region	Problem opioid users				Total	Number of POUs per 1 OST provider	Proportion of POUs in OST (%)
	Heroin	Buprenorphine	Other opioids				
Prague	3 000	5 300	400	8 600	430	16.5	
Středočeský	100	500	<50	600	75	25.3	
Jihočeský	100	300	200	500	100	11.4	
Plzeňský	100	100	200	300	100	13.7	
Karlovarský	<50	<50	<50	100	100	7.0	
Ústecký	400	400	<50	900	180	34.7	
Liberecký	<50	<50	<50	<50	17	56.0	
Královéhradecký	<50	100	<50	100	33	107.0	
Pardubický	<50	<50	<50	<50	0	0.0	
Vysočina	<50	<50	<50	100	50	20.0	
Jihomoravský	600	<50	100	700	100	23.3	
Olomoucký	100	<50	<50	100	100	46.0	
Zlínský	<50	<50	100	100	100	1.0	
Moravskoslezský	200	300	100	700	175	12.0	
Total	4,500	7,100	1,100	12,700	202	19.2	

High number of problem use of opioid analgesics

Low availability of substitution treatment



Národní monitorovací
středisko pro drogy
a závislosti

Thank you

Pavla Chomynová

Czech National Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Addictions

chomynova.pavla@vlada.cz

www.drogy-info.cz

rvkpp.vlada.cz

www.vlada.cz

www.hazardni-hrani.cz

Viktor Mravčík

mravcik.viktor@vlada.cz

[National website for support of smoking cessation:](#)

www.koureni-zabiji.cz

[National hotline for smoking cessation: 800 35 00 00](tel:800350000)

> Sources

- > BRENZA, J. & GABRHELÍK, R. 2014. Vývoj užívání léčiv v České socialistické republice v období před "objevem" postupů pokoutní výroby pervitinu a braunu. *Adiktologie*, 14 (3), 284-293.
- > Data from National register in treatment of substance use (2015).
- > HAMPL, K. 1994. Substance abuse in the Czech Republic. In: SKÁLA, J., KALINA, K. & BÉM, P. (eds.) *Substance abuse in the Czech Republic*. Prague: International institute on the prevention and treatment of alcoholism and drug dependence.
- > MRAVČÍK, V. et al. 2004. Výroční zpráva o stavu ve věcech drog v České republice v roce 2003, Praha: Úřad vlády České republiky.
- > MRAVČÍK, V. et al. 2015. Výroční zpráva o stavu ve věcech drog v České republice v roce 2014, Praha, Úřad vlády České republiky.
- > MRAVČÍK, V. et al. 2016 Výroční zpráva o stavu ve věcech drog v České republice v roce 2015, Praha, Úřad vlády České republiky.
- > NOŽINA, M. 1997. Drogová historie. In: NOŽINA, M. (ed.) *Svět drog v Čechách*. 1. ed. Praha & Orlik nad Vltavou: KLP-Koniasch Latin Press & Livingstone.
- > URBAN, E. 1973. *Toxikománie*, Praha: Avicenum.
- > VONDRÁČEK, V. 1941. Kodeinismus. *Čas. Lék. čes.*, 80, 733 - 736.
- > ZÁBRANSKÝ, T. 2007. Methamphetamine in the Czech Republic. *Journal of Drug Issues*, 37 (1), 155-80.