

# Prevention Workers in the Olomouc Region – Analysis of Work Conditions



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**BACKGROUND:** School prevention workers operate in basic and secondary schools. Their work involves methodological, coordination, counselling and informative activities in the field of the prevention of risk behaviours. **AIMS:** The research study focuses on school prevention workers and their role in school prevention. The study seeks to collect information about the work conditions, work needs, motives, values, and personal characteristics of school prevention workers in the Olomouc region. **SAMPLE:** The non-representative sample comprised 42 school prevention workers (37 women and 5 men). The focus group was attended by five prevention workers from pedagogical and psychological counselling centres in the Olomouc region. **METHODS:** The study involved the construction and administration of a test battery consisting of three methods: two standardised personality inventories, NEO-FFI and HO-MO-PO, and one screening questionnaire which was in-

tended to record basic data about the work conditions and needs of the individuals performing as school prevention workers. A focus group with the district prevention workers was held as part of the quantitative component of the study. **RESULTS:** The problems which the school prevention workers included in the study sample mostly deal with in their schools include those related to misbehaviour, relationships and cigarette smoking. In their work, they often apply methods used to identify risk pupils and students. The results from the NEO-FFI personality inventory suggest that school prevention workers tend to be emotionally stable, open to other people and new experience, ready to help and listen, conscientious, and oriented towards moral values. **CONCLUSION:** An understanding of the role and different aspects of the school prevention worker's performance and personality may help improve the quality and effectiveness of school prevention.

**KEY WORDS:** SCHOOL PREVENTION WORKER – TEACHER – RISK PHENOMENA – SCHOOL – PRIMARY PREVENTION

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