

What Addicts' Parents, Partners, and Other Relatives Should Know about Drug Treatment and Aftercare



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SUMMARY: *Prior to their discharge from residential treatment patients should be advised how to behave when they return home. This essential step is often neglected. It is also common for patients' parents and partners to be uncertain about how to approach and behave towards addicts in recovery. Patients need to be advised how to perceive such a problematic reception and how to respond to it.*

This may also be a subject of family therapy, which constitutes a part of both inpatient and outpatient treatment. In addition to the patient's illness, family therapy deals with dysfunctional family or partner relationships. Both the immediate and subsequent experiences of some of the patients during family therapy are presented. Their parents' and/or partners' experiences are lacking, as they only rarely come to the Horní Beřkovice facility because of its distant location. It is thus up to outpatient aftercare services to fill this gap in the treatment system.

This topic deserves more attention and interest. It would also be useful to have more experience and data published.

KEY WORDS: DISCHARGED ADDICTS – BEHAVIOUR AT HOME – REACTION OF THE FAMILY AND PARTNERS – FAMILY THERAPY – OUTPATIENT AFTERCARE

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