

Drug Use among Ethnic Minorities in the Czech Republic



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SUMMARY: *The article summarises the latest information about ethnic minorities in the Czech Republic, with the main focus being on their position as drug users. It also provides a summary of the current terminology relevant to this topic. Special attention is paid to the concept of the social exclusion of members of ethnic minorities and to the way in which social exclusion affects them as users of drugs and as clients of drug services. The main objective of the article is to review the existing relevant surveys conducted thus far in the Czech Republic with ethnic minorities as the target population. The surveys focus generally on the prevalence of risk behaviour; methodological issues related to the surveys are discussed in the text. The final part of the article is dedicated to drug services and their readiness to work with clients from different ethnic backgrounds. Several surveys are mentioned and recommendations on how to adjust their services to the population under consideration that are derived from these surveys are offered to drug treatment practitioners.*

KEY WORDS: ETHNIC MINORITIES – ROMA PEOPLE – DRUG USE – SOCIAL EXCLUSION

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