

WYBRANE ETYCZNE ASPEKTY LECZENIA NARKOMANÓW W POLSCE

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SOME ETHICAL ASPECTS OF DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT IN POLAND.

ABSTRACT – Ethical aspects of drug abuse treatment have been discussed for a long time in Poland. Under the Adequacy of Drug Abuse Treatment and Care in Europe program (ADAT) a number of issues involving many ethical problems have been identified, including involuntary treatment, infringement of patient's rights, harm reduction (substitution programs, needle exchange, provision of condoms), attitudes toward HIV+, as well as funding of drug treatment.

Two official documents regulate the issues related to the treatment of drug addicts in Poland: the Mental Health Act of 1994 and the Law on Counteracting Drug Addiction of 1997. Both these acts promote the principle of voluntary treatment, describing in detail possible exceptions to the rule, and provide for treatment free of charge.

Moreover, facilities whose leaders are affiliated with the International Federation of Therapeutic Communities have their own regulations based on the documents of the International Federation of Therapeutic Communities (i.e. the Chart of Members of Therapeutic Communities, Norms and Aims of Therapeutic Communities, Ethical Principles of Staff of Therapeutic Community). The documents in question include a detailed list of recommendations and suggestions concerning ethical priorities in the work with drug addicts.

According to the law, each treatment and rehabilitation unit is obligated to have its own regulations. A majority of these tend to infringe on the patient's rights, limiting his/her capability of making decisions in many important matters. Full recovery and drug-free life are assumed in the regulations as the main goals of drug treatment.

Key words: ethical aspects, ethical codes, human rights, harm reduction

WSTĘP

Od 1999 roku Instytut Psychiatrii i Neurologii współpracuje z dziesięcioma krajami europejskimi w programie ADAT (Adequacy of Drug Abuse Treatment and Care in Europe), któremu patronują Światowa Organizacja Zdrowia i Komisja Europejska. Koordynatorem projektu jest Addiction Research Institute w Zurichu. Przedmiotem badań programu jest dostosowanie systemu leczenia i opieki do potrzeb uzależnionych od narkotyków. Zakres badań obejmuje etyczne aspekty leczenia, potrze-