



# The role of Centers for tobacco dependence treatment in the European Network of Smoke-Free Hospitals



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## INTRODUCTION

Centers for treatment of tobacco dependence are being created in the Czech Republic since 2005, currently 30 of them working. They are based at hospitals, mostly at respiratory or medical department and they provide the evidence-based treatment for all patients and health professionals dependent on nicotine and willing to quit. One of their role, except of treating smokers, is long-time support to their hospitals to become smoke-free or help with involvement of the hospital into the European Network of Smoke-Free Hospitals.



Centres for tobacco dependence treatment in Czech Republic

## METHODS

A comprehensive system of intensive treatment of tobacco dependence is created in the Czech Republic since 2004: Centers for Treatment of Tobacco Dependence (further as Centers) based at hospitals. They are mostly part of internal, pulmonary or cardiology wards. In addition to the treatment of tobacco dependence offered to patients they also try to motivate smokers among the hospital staff to stop smoking as well as educate namely physicians and nurses in the brief intervention in smoking cessation. Also, those centers can be resources for the hospital management in introduction of Health Promoting Hospitals (HPH) or European Network of Smoke-Free Hospitals (ENSH) and in creating a smoke-free hospital.

In the Czech Republic, currently 3 out of 32 centers are based at hospitals-members of the HPH/ENSH network. They had started this above mentioned activities. Concerning other centers, on regular meetings of the centers' staff from the whole country we ask them to push and motivate the management of their hospitals to join the HPH/ENSH network and to serve them in this sense.



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## RESULTS

Centers currently working with their hospital management in transformation to entirely smoke-free are: General University Hospital and University Hospital Motol in Prague and Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute in Brno. Hospital in Sumperk is the member of HPH initiative and plans actually to create such Centre.

The role of Centers in ENSH activities should be: monitoring the smoking prevalence of the hospital staff and offer to help with stopping smoking, their education in brief intervention, help to the hospital management with formulation of the smoke-free strategy including support of tobacco dependence treatment among the hospital staff, spreading information to patients, and help with the communication between the hospital and the local governmental authorities (Ministry of Health, WHO liaison office) concerning this topic.



Discourse about our cooperation with Mayo clinic, Nicotine Dependence Center, Rochester

## CONCLUSION

Involvement in the ENSH project and having really a smoke-free hospital is one of the conditions to enter HPH network. In the Czech Republic, WHO liaison office as well as Ministry of Health support our national participation in the International working group of Tobacco Free United (TFU), including the entry of the General University Hospital into the International network HPH.

## REFERENCES:

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CO measuring in entrance of General University Hospital