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# The Czech Republic New Psychoactive Substances

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# Changes in the Act on Addictive Substances in 2011

In 2010 massive increase in the supply of NPS in the Czech Republic

Substances not included in the schedules attached to the international conventions or the national norm

In April 2011 came into effect new amendment of the Addictive Substances Act No. 167/1998 Coll.

An additional 33 substances on the list of the psychotropic substances scheduled in the appendices of the law

Currently in preparation further amendment of the act-substances newly listed in Government Decree



## Sale of NPD

Between the end of 2010 and April 2011, the sale through shops often combined with e-shops

20 regular stores offering NPDs in 11 Czech towns and cities at the end of March 2011

NPDs usually sold through e-shops; 19 e-shops with czech interface offering NPDs identified in february 2012 (15 e-shops in 2011)

The most frequently offered substances: kratom, 6-APB, methylone, mephedrone, methoxetamine



## Prevalence of NPS use

In the spring of 2011 a questionnaire survey among internet users

1091 respondents aged from 15 to 34

A total of 50 respondents (4.5%) reported use any one of the new synthetic drugs (6% M, 3% F)

Using the snowball sampling technique recruitment of 151 respondents

At least one third of the respondents have used mephedrone or another cathinone

approximately 10–15% have used herbal products containing synthetic cannabinoids

Regular use in the last year reported by 2% of the respondents, repeated use by 51%, one-off experience stated by 47%



# Collecting and analyzing data on NPS -complex methodological problem

NPSs are mostly supplied with no information about their composition;

the chemical names are complicated for a non-professional and there are no generally accepted single names for the substances

the commercial names vary and it is not clear which specific substances they are associated with





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