

The perspectives and current state of the process of accreditation and professional development in the area of medical librarianship in the Czech Republic

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The Medical Care in the Czech Republic

Population	10, 22 Mio
Density of population	131 per /km ²
Gross domestic product	7,16 %
Health establishments	27 328
Physicians and pharmacists	40 371
Health service personnel	105 076
Expenditure on health services	7.020 Mio Euro

14 Regions of the Czech Republic



The Network of Public Information Services in Healthcare

Types of Health Establishments

- Teaching Hospitals
- Faculties of Medicine
- Scientific and Research Workplaces
- Preventive Medicine Establishments
- Educational Institutions
- Physiotherapeutic Institutions
- Others

The Library Education in the Czech Republic

Level of qualification

- Without a professional qualification
- Graduates of accredited retraining courses for librarians – Certificate
- Graduates of gymnasium – secondary grammar schools
- Graduates of professional secondary schools
- Graduates of secondary schools for librarians (High Schools and Colleges for Vocational Studies in Information and Library Sciences)
- Graduates of Higher professional schools – Diploma
- Graduates of universities specialised in librarianship study field
- Graduates of other universities (not specialised in library and information sciences study field)

The Library Education in the Czech Republic

Level of qualification

Level: 2 - Graduates of accredited retraining courses for librarians – Certificate

**Course name: Accredited retraining course NK (National Library) and STK
(State Technical Library)**

Duration of study: 160 hours

Required professional qualification: school leaving exam

Degree:

Level: 3 - Graduates of gymnasium – secondary grammar schools

School name: Gymnasium – secondary grammar school

Duration of study: 8, 6, 4 years

Required professional qualification: school leaving exam

Degree:

The Library Education in the Czech Republic

Level of qualification

Level: 4 - Graduates of professional secondary schools

School name:

Duration of study:

Required professional qualification: school leaving exam

Degree:

Level: 5 - Graduates of secondary schools for librarians

(High Schools and Colleges for Vocational Studies in Information and Library Sciences), ended with school leaving exam, 6 in the Czech Republic

School Name: High School and College for Vocational Studies in Information and Library Sciences

Duration of study: 4 years

Required professional qualification:

Degree:

The Library Education in the Czech Republic

Level of qualification

Level: 6 - Graduates of Higher professional schools – Diploma,
2 in the Czech Republic

Name: The Higher Professional School of Information Services

a) Duration of study: 3 (4) years

Required professional qualification: school leaving exam

Degree: Dis (qualified specialist with a diploma)

b) Duration of study: 3 (4) + 1

Required professional qualification: Dis

Degree: BBS (Bachelor of Business Studies)

The Library Education in the Czech Republic

Level of qualification

Level: 7 - Graduates of universities specialised in librarianship study field -

Charles University, Masaryk University, Silesian University in Opava, 3 in the Czech Republic

Name: Institute of Information Studies and Librarianship

a) Duration of study: 3 years

Required professional qualification: school leaving exam

Degree: Bc (Bachelor)

b) Duration of study: 3 + 2 years

Required professional qualification: Bachelor

Degree: Magister

c) Duration of study: 5 + 1 years

Required professional qualification: Magister

Degree: PhDr

d) Duration of study: Doctoral Programme, 3 years

Required professional qualification: Magister, PhDr

Degree: PhD

e) Duration of study: Lifelong education, 1 year

Required professional qualification: retirement, age over 55 years

Degree: Certification UK

The Library Education in the Czech Republic

Level of qualification

Level: 8 - Graduates of other universities (not specialised in library and information sciences study field)

Name:

Duration of study: 3 – 6 years

Required professional qualification: school leaving exam

Degree: MUDr, JUDr, Ing, MVDr, PharmDr, RNDr ...

Note: The elaboration of an educational programme, which is necessary for acquirement of a professional qualification in the scientific medical information field, requires a degree of Bachelor (Higher Professional School).

Continual Education of Librarians in the Czech Republic

- Professional, educational, social, promotional and other actions organized by libraries of different types, sizes and scopes, by professional corporations, schools, cooperating companies and also by other promoters including foreign ones. Trainings, courses, seminars and conferences concerning of library-information profession, exhibitions and fairs.
- Important organizers: Association of library and Information Professionals of the Czech Republic. (TRAINING CENTRE FOR FURTHER EDUCATION OF LIBRARIANS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC), State Technical Library, National Medical Library, Institute for Postgraduate Medical Education, CEC – EAHIL.

Postgraduate Professional Education System of Health Workers (1)

Health workers are bound to take part in long life, continual and specialized education.

Continual education:

- In 5 – years cycles of receiving certificates and credits ended with a diploma
- Among forms of education belongs study of professional literature
- The Czech Medical Chamber grants accreditations to individual workplaces or to individual programmes for continual education of medical and non-medical professions

Postgraduate Professional Education System of Health Workers (2)

Specialized education:

Period of specialized education ranges from 4 to 8 years. There are together 83 specialized study fields. Specialized study follows the educational programmes containing all required necessary knowledge for trainees.

The educational programmes are completed with records of medical performances realized during study under the supervision of professional trainer, which are called Logbooks. The Logbooks serve for evidence of all required medical performances. Specialized exam (attestation) is passed in the accredited workplaces.

The methodological, informational and organizational functions are carried out by Institute for Postgraduate Medical Education.

Role of National Medical Library

- Present state of evaluation of libraries activities: traditional quantitative indicators published as “Annual Statistics”
- Benchmarking project National Library of the Czech Republic (2005-2007). The aim is to create and test a benchmarking system for evaluating of public libraries activities with possible application for medical libraries
- NML working group
- German library index BIX (Bibliotheksindex) - 17 basic indicators for mutual comparison of library activities among different libraries – <http://www.bix-bibliotheksindex.de/>
Quality indicators: - library staff and professional development
- library staff and efficiency
- Working group recommendation for re-engineering of the traditional evaluating system of the Czech medical libraries*

* Potomková J., Bouzková H., Lesenková E.: A New System of Evaluating Medical Library Services in the Czech Republic by Means of Performance Indicators. EAHIL Workshop, Palermo, June 23-25, 2005

Re-engineering of Traditional Evaluation System of the Czech Medical Libraries

- New performance indicators for skills and knowledge of library staff
- Library staff and professional development + library staff and efficiency (see BIX - Bibliotheksindex)
- A quantitative point of view predominates: it is monitored the number of education hours, days per worker and investigation of workers satisfaction, statements of processed units
- Increase the number of indicators reflecting requirements for further education
- Initiate the existence of an accreditation subject for granting of certificates and credits for participation in long life education (see professional organization)
- Determine the conditions for participation of librarian in long life education system
- Take into account this participation during the process of evaluation of applicants in all selection procedures

Professional and State Organizations: Librarianship, Health Care and Education (national circumstances)

- Librarianship: Association of Library and Information Professionals of the Czech Republic (SKIP), Czech Society of Medical Informatics and Scientific Information Czech Medical Association of Jan Evangelista Purkyně (ZIVI), National Medical Library (NLK)
- Health Care: The Czech Medical Chamber (ČLK), Institute for Postgraduate Medical Education (IPVZ)
- Education: The Ministry of Education Youth and Sports

Recommendation – Conclusion

- Re-engineer the traditional system of evaluation of the Czech medical library services in the National Medical Library
- Develop the cooperation between the accredited educational subject (IPVZ) and the professional society (ZIVI) – for granting certificates and credits for participation in long life education.
- Elaborate an educational programme for the area of scientific information, which will be accredited by the Ministry of Health in the Czech Republic (IPVZ + NLK)
- Elaborate a proposal of field specialization of health informatics for an amendment of the Act on conditions for acquiring and validating of professional qualification for exercise a profession (Collection 2004/95), a cooperation among IPVZ, NLK, ZIVI
- European cooperation EAHIL – development of an educational programme (Nederland, Norway, Great Britan, Finland)

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