



IS THE INTERNET THE RIGHT SOURCE FOR CONQUERING KNOWLEDGE ON DISEASES?

More and more young people check their symptoms on the Internet. The Internet is not always a good source for checking an information about it. Not on every website the person who adds a given article has the appropriate knowledge and competences. Checking of the symptoms from an online source carries the risk of misdiagnosing and generates fear.

The main aim of the project is to find out the opinions of the young people aged 18-30 on finding their disease symptoms on the Internet and about their emotions.

The study involved 100 people aged 18-30 who voluntarily completed a proprietary electronic questionnaire examining the attitude of young people to searching for disease symptoms on the Internet.

Many of respondents found a diagnosis on the Internet based on their symptoms at least once in their life. Most of this information was searched for on the first pages appearing in a web browser after entering a given ailment. Most respondents, indicate anxiety about their health as the main reason for searching of disease symptoms on the Internet. A lot of respondents, did not consult them with a doctor. A large group of respondents say that the information retrieved caused them fear and / or panic. The Covid-19 pandemic influenced the frequency of searching for health ailments on the Internet. The obtained results show the attitude of young people to searching the meaning of disease symptoms on the Internet.

A large group of 61% respondents say that the information retrieved caused them fear and / or panic.

Most respondents, 61%, indicate anxiety about their health as the main reason for searching of disease symptoms on the Internet.

80% of people who found information on the Internet treat the occurrence of given symptoms as an indication of their health condition and 20% of respondents as a diagnosis.

Respondents are divide on the recognition of the Internet as a reliable source of knowledge in the field of health and disease. 50% believe that the Internet is not an appropriate source of information