

The ICF's usage for assessment of damages immaterial harm in the Czech Republic

Roman Žďárek, Charles University, 1st Medical Faculty

Všehrdova 560/2, Praha 1 – Malá Strana, PSČ 118 00 www.akademiemp.cz, email: info@akademiemp.cz www.facebook.com/akademiemedicinskehoprava



 compensations of non-material damage (damage to health)

### Non-material damage to health



#### § 2958 (Civil Code)

The malefactor makes pecuniary raparation for actual bodily harm to injured person, which is fully coutervailing to suffered pain and other nonmaterial demage; if the impediment for better future of injured person, caused by the injury, arises, malefactor compensates even diminishing social position (social impairment). When it is impossible to assess the amount of compensation by this way, it's assessed by principles of decency and public policy.



#### **Pain**

- physical and mental suffering
- > unpleasant sensual and sencory experience linked with real or pending damage of tissue
- discomfort, stress, fears connected with the painful state

#### **Social impairment** (in case of impediment for better future)

➤ Effects of health damage which have a lasting nature and which have a provably negative influence on life and social engagement of the injured

#### Other non-material damage

unpainful and non-lasting states connected with a damage of health which have a negative effect on a personal sphere



# 237. and 238. Final Provisions § 3080 of the new Civil Code

the cancelled Regulation No 440/2001
 Coll., compensation for pain and social impairment



#### § 13 (Civil Code)

Everybody, who is demanding legal protection, may rightfully expect, his case will be adjudicated similarly as another case, which has been decided already and which is corresponding to his case in constituent elements; if the case was adjudicated differently, everybody, who is demanding legal protection, has the right for valid clarification (by the good cause) of this departue.



Methodology of the Supreme Court for compensation for non-material damage (damage on health)

- > non-committal recommendation material
- > complex approach
- expert basis
- > to use in the court and out-of-court practice

## Authors of the Methodology



- 1st Faculty of Medicine, Charles University in Prague expert guarantee
- Society of Medical Law
- Supreme Court of the Czech Republic
- representatives of regional (appelate) Courts
- representatives of insurers (compensation payers)



➤ Compensation for <u>pain</u> – revision of the Appendix 1. of the Regulation No 440/2001 Coll.

Social impairment – an entirely new approach with application of ICF

## Compensation for pain



- an overview of pain consists of particular items assigned with point values reflecting mutual proportions between individual items
- a point value 1% gross nominal monthly wage by annual coverted number of emloyees in national economy for the year preciding the year of occurence of entitlement / occurence of pain

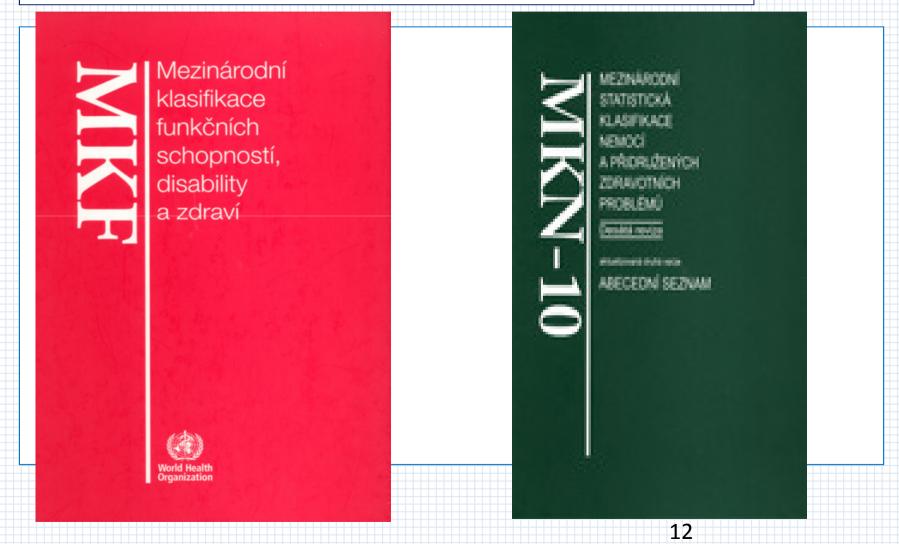
### Social impairment



# ICF – International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health

- A system developed by the World Health Organization (WHO)





### International Classification WHO

 International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD)

 International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF)

## International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health

- ICF as a multipurpose classification
  - endorsed by the resolution of the Fifty-fourth WHO Assembly in 2001
- Application of ICF
  - as a clinical tool
  - as a tool for work evaluation
  - as a tool of social and health policy
  - as a statistical tool
  - as a research tool

## International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health

Two persons with the same disease
 (ICD) can have different level of
 functioning (ICF), and two persons with
 the same level of functioning do not
 necessarily have the same health
 complications!



### Four components:

- 1. Body functioning (code b)
- 2. Body structures (code s)



- execution of tasks and involvement in a life situation
- 4. Environmental factors (code e)





#### **Activities and Participation – nine chapters**

- 1. Learning and applying knowledge
- 2. General tasks and demands
- 3. Communication
- 4. Mobility
- 5. Self-care
- 6. Domestic life
- 7. Interpersonal interactions and relationships
- 8. Major life areas
- 9. Community, social and civic life





#### **Qualifiers (the level of problem)**



0 – no problem (absent, negligible)	0-4%
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1 – mild problem (slight, low) 5 -24%

2 – moderate problem (visibly higher) 25-49%

3 – severe problem (high, extreme) 50-95%

4 – complete problem (total) 95-100%

## **Activities and Participation**

- Activity capacity
  - ability of an individual to execute a task (action) without special aid and independently on the environment
- Participation performance
  - involvement of individual in a life situation using environment factors



Activities and Participation – differences in comparison with current application

- to assess Capacity, sometimes also Performance
- it will be necessary to assess all points (chapters)
- a status before damage is important
- some Facilitators are taken into account
- in addition, there should be a space for consideration of the Court (in particular, age, exceptional involvement of the sufferer, circumstances according to § 2957)



#### Alignment of the financial extent of compensation

- ➤ a limit amount expressing a hypothetical 100% social impairment of a sufferer around 10.000.000,- CZK
- it reflects the development of price level and economic parameters, it is suggested to express it as a 400-fold gross nominal wage by annual coverted number of emloyees in national economy, as for the year when the sufferer's health status was stabilized, e.g. in 2013 it made up 25.128,- CZK



#### Alignment of the financial level of compensation

- basic (general) evaluation of compensation for non-material damage at lasting health effects
- proportional expression of loss of average potential for the particular damage type



#### **Modification of general amount:**

- The age when lasting effects occured
- 45 to 55 years basic, general
- +10% between the ages of 35 44 years
- + 20% between the ages of 25 34 years
- + 30 35% between the ages of 0 24 years
- - 10% between the ages of 55 69 years
- 20% elder than 70 years



#### **Modification of general amount:**

- > Social engagement before damage of health
- + 10% above-average
- + 20% exceptionally intensive
- + 30% extraordinary
- 10% below the average
- 20% practically no



#### **Modification of general amount:**

➤ The exceptional circumstances listed in § 2957 are not possible to take into account due to their assumed extent a variability which cannot be expressed neither by specific term nor by the corresponding percentage range, thereby it is reserved merely on consideration of the Court with recommendation to keep the compensation after complete resulting increase at the border of two-fold general amount



#### Expert:

Assessment of the level of problem



Percentage (up to 100%)

#### Court:

General initial amount (10.051.200,- Kč)

Percent multiplication

Basic compensation

Modification

Resulting compensation



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roman.zdarek@advok.eu