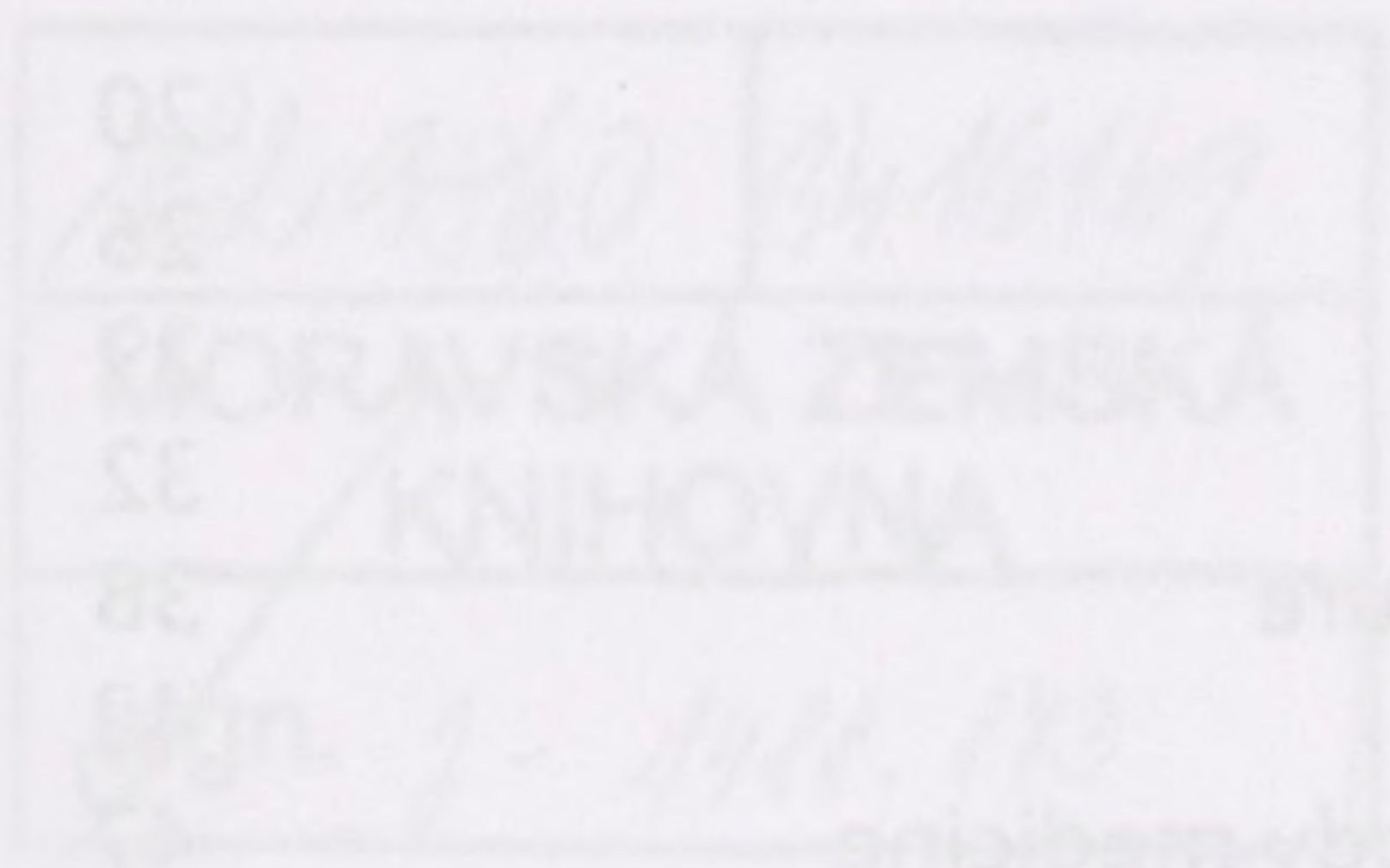


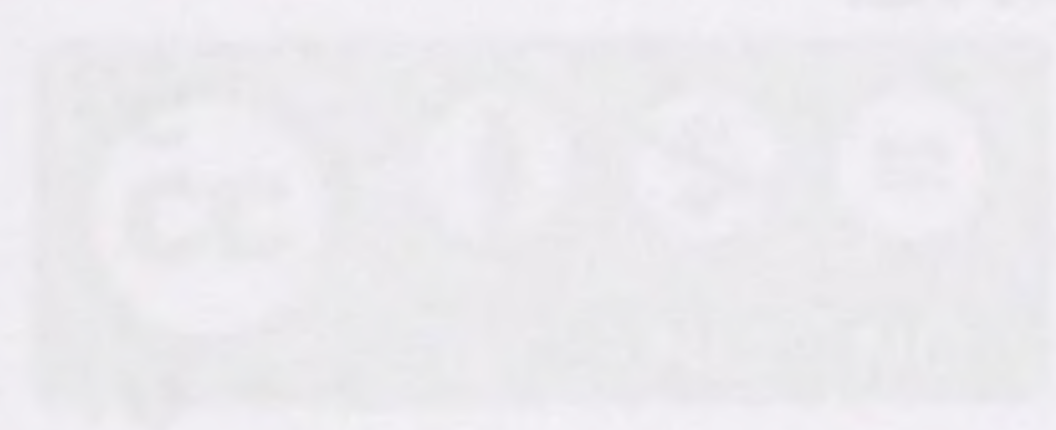
Contents

Preface	7
Introduction	9
Part I UNDERSTANDING UNCONVENTIONAL MEDICINE: GENERAL OVERVIEW	13
1. The field of unconventional medicine	15
2. Situating unconventional therapies in Central Europe	20
3. Mapping the situation in Slovakia	26
3.1 Folk medicine in ethnology	29
3.2 Psychotronics and biotherapy	32
3.3 Chinese medicine and acupuncture	38
3.4 Homeopathy in Slovakia	43
3.5 Ayurveda and yoga as a mind-body medicine	47
4. The legal status of unconventional medicine	53
4.1 The reimbursement of unconventional medicine and products	57
Part II UNDERSTANDING UNCONVENTIONAL MEDICINE: SOCIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION	59
5. National population-based survey	61
5.1 Questionnaire development	62
6. Prevalence, significance and reasons for UM use	65
7. Use of and visits to healthcare providers and specialists	74
8. Dissatisfaction with conventional medicine, philosophical orientation and holistic balance	82
9. Analysis of UM use and visits to unconventional healthcare providers	87
Part III UNDERSTANDING UNCONVENTIONAL MEDICINE: ANTHROPOLOGICAL EXAMINATION	93
10. Narrative and the pervasive question of efficacy	95

10.1 "The folk healer meets the person as a whole"	96
10.2 "Homeopathy makes people feel better"	100
10.3 "The inevitability of the placebo effect in healing"	105
11. A few concluding remarks on the topic of efficacy	110
Conclusion	112
References	115
Index	130
Tables and Charts	139
Notes on Authors	141



Reviewers:
 Doc. PhDr. Eva Krizová, Ph.D.
 Mgr. Robert Klobučný, PhD



© 2022 Text: Ivan Souček, Roman Holc, Michael Souček, Viktor Melyk, Lea Novotná
 © 2022 Graphic design and layout: Viktor Melyk, Lea Novotná