

## **ABSTRAKT**

*Introduction:* Primary care is a complex health – social care provided by healthcare professionals, especially at the level of citizen's first contact with the healthcare system and on the basis of long-term continuous access to the individual. It is a set of activities related to health promotion, prevention, assessment, treatment, rehabilitation and nursing care. These activities are provided as close to the patient's social environment as possible, respecting the bio-psycho-social needs (NCDP ČR, 2017).

*Objective:* The main goal of this thesis is to clarify and explain the most significant differences in primary care of the patient in the Czech and American health care, focusing on the biggest problems and the advantages that are present at primary care level. The issue is viewed in the context of the social and cultural environment, which makes patient care in some respects specific.

*Questions:*

What is the education of a primary care nurse in the US?

What are the competencies of a primary care nurse in the US?

What is the nursing position in the US multidisciplinary primary care team?

What competencies could be effectively transferred to the Czech healthcare system and why?

*Methodology:* The main method by which I obtained most of the material for my bachelor thesis is based on a narrative review of the literature on the chosen subject. I have also used observations and personal experience given by years of experience in both Czech and American healthcare.

*Outcome:* Most of the nursing staff in the US have some university degree. An important part of nursing job in the USA is the need for lifelong continuing nursing education. Without further active participation, nurses could not continue to practice their profession, and their nursing license would be canceled. I have to also mention the fact, that primary care in the US has a lower-level nursing and aids staff available to help not only RN, but also APRN.

The competence of primary care nurses between the USA and Czech Republic is very different. In the United States, nursing competencies are directly proportional by the level of education. For example, nurses in the United States can treat patients with a more common type of illness, RN are also responsible for chronic illness patients using the nursing protocols under the supervision of an APRN nurse or doctor. APRN nurses can even prescribe medication or lead their own practice.

The status of nurses in the US multidisciplinary primary care team is on an equal level with all other members of the team. Each team member has its own position and competences. Their knowledge is shared in between all members of the team, which helps not only to cooperate with each other, but also to the patient himself.

*Conclusion:* This thesis will serve as an informative material not only for healthcare professionals, but also for the general public. As the main contribution of my thesis, I see an explanation of the term primary care, but also of the position of a registered nurse in American primary health care and the possibility of implementing some elements that could improve Czech healthcare system.

**Keywords:** primary care, registered nurse, healthcare, nursing, competence, USA, Czech Republic