

Abstract

This diploma thesis deals with the attitudes of neonatologists and nurses to the ethical aspects of the treatment of extremely immature infants. The aim was to capture and interpret the attitudes of health professionals to the ethical issues of intensive neonatal care and their role in the decision-making process. The data were gathered through qualitative methodology using semi-structured and informal interviews with five neonatologists and five nurses. Data analysis was performed using open coding and data categorization. The results of the research are presented in individual categorical units by interpreting and retelling the received information. In conclusion, the attitudes of health professionals to selected ethical problems and the roles of individual members of the multidisciplinary team in decision-making about treatment procedures are discussed separately. The evaluation of results leads to the formulated recommendations for practice, which include several proposed solutions to the interpersonal problems associated with ethical issues of care for immature infants.

Key words: immature infant, medical ethics, ethical decision making, perinatology, nursing, qualitative approach, interviews