

The thesis is devoted to the social support in an illness of adult patients. A theoretical part is engaged in the illness as a pressure situation, patients, their needs and the social support about which we can talk in the context of the illness. The attention is mainly concentrated on the fact how the patients subjectively feel the support whether they accept or reject it, whether they need it and if the way how it is given is convenient or not. An important thing is to feel the support as a positive thing (e.g. desirable, helpful) and a negative one (e.g. limiting). The selective file, whose data are used for the experimental part of the thesis, consists of 40 patients divided into two groups called "psychiatric group" and "non-psychiatric group". Besides a medical diagnosis the fact which of the patients' health troubles are felt by them as the dominant ones is important for their including into these groups.

The basis of the experimental part of the thesis is the quality analysis of the obtained data that are also completed with the quantity comparison of separate indices and the search of potential relations of dependence between them with the help of correlations in each group separately. The results from both groups are compared.

It turns out that the patients' needs considering the social support in the groups are different. "Psychiatric patients" feel less understanding from their surroundings and their demands for social support and its form are considerably influenced with the character of their troubles. "Non-psychiatric patients" consider giving of proximity, relationships, amusement, maintenance of the contact with the outside world and requested help as the essential thing.