

ABSTRACT

This diploma thesis investigates to what degree the evaluative and measuring techniques are used when assessing separate areas of condition of a neurosurgical patient in intensive care. The reason why I have chosen this topic was the increasing demands on nurses' performance and medical documentation as well. The rating scales method enables in a standard and proved way to assess the patient's condition and document the gained data. The rating scale, when used properly, can also make nurses' work easier.

The first part of this diploma thesis focuses on definitions important to this topic. The second part is focused on processing scales used for the neurosurgical patient in intensive care. I have chosen the most used methods which are used for assessment of the patient's consciousness and the extent of sedation, assessment of severity of thrombophlebitis, pressure ulcer risk assessment, assessment of nutritional status, pain and fall risk assessment, evaluation of muscle strength and final evaluation of the patient's condition. In the practical part the anonymous questionnaire was used for investigation. There were 105 questionnaires from eight wards of three different hospitals evaluated.

Key words: rating scale, neurosurgical patient, intensive care unit, risks to the patient, evaluation of the patient