

TITLE:

Coping with sudden motility limitation and its implication – coping strategies among young people with spinal cord injury and with multiple sclerosis

SUMMARY:

This thesis is focused on process of adjustment of motility limitation, caused by spinal cord injury or by attack of multiple sclerosis, among young people. The motoric ability limitation affects their mobility as well as their social interaction, interests, plans and especially their independence. Thus, in age of gaining emancipation from nuclear family, they become dependant on their home-folks again. The theoretical part of the thesis acquaints with spinal cord injuries and multiple sclerosis from biological and psychosocial point of view, thereafter it's engaged in coping generally and coping in relation to these two groups. Furthermore it's dealt with developmental periods characterization of adolescence and young adulthood, consequences of health turnover in self-concept in social context. The empirical part is based on semi-structured interviews with six young people (3 with spinal cord injury, 3 with multiple sclerosis). The important findings gained from interviews are presented in form of casuistries. On the basis of the interviews analysis it's demonstrated problematic domains, that are affected by motility limitation, and ways of coping, that are used by young people for adjustment to these changeovers.

KEYWORDS:

Spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis, coping, self concept, adolescence, young adulthood