

Annotation

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This thesis deals with patients' rights. Patients' rights are specified in the Code of the Patients' Rights and every patient should be properly informed about them. A new relationship has been formed between the health professionals and patients and it began the procedure of introducing the patients' rights. This brings new obligations for medical personnel and new ways of communication. The result of this should be an informed patient. Only patients who are informed about their health, treatment options, and risks and whose rights are respected will feel safe and able to cope with their illness as well as the medical procedure. Well informed patients will be able to live well according to the disease. The thesis is divided into two parts, theoretical and practical. The theoretical part deals with general issues of patients' rights, respect for patients' rights, history and evolution of patients' rights, and the current state of patients' rights in the Czech Republic. The matter of protection of the patient's rights and explaining the procedure to the patient can affect whether he or she considers that his or her rights were violated or not. This thesis also focuses on the issues of health ethics, medical ethics and nursing ethics. The practical part focuses on mapping the level of patients' awareness of their rights in the individual departments of the Svitavy hospital. Figuring out whether the patients are informed of their rights, whether their rights are understood and can reasonably be applied, and whether patients' rights are respected in hospital. I used a quantitative research method via a questionnaire survey in the empirical part. Results of the survey suggest that the patients' awareness of their rights and respect of those rights is an area that will require improvement and will also require a proactive approach by both healthcare workers and the patients themselves.