

Eating disorders are serious psychosomatic diseases, which may eventually lead to death. Its development is attributed to various causes, from an influence of ideals of beauty, as it is presented by advertising industry, to changing role of female in society. Spread of the disease is linked also to high demand on personal success in current society. Nonetheless, eating disorders are not new illness and exact causes of disease occurrence are still a matter of debate. In this thesis I deal with Anorexia Nervosa, its symptoms, causes and also psychosocial context of the disease. Further I focus on services for people suffering from Anorexia, which are available in Czech Republic. Causes of the disorder are highly individual, but as most common causes stated in literature are dysfunctional family or criticism from environment. Females are more susceptible, some personality traits seemingly also increase risk, but many of them may be in fact a consequences of the illness. Treatment is usually outpatient, for a successful treatment patient needs to recognise her or his condition as a disease. In Czech Republic treatment is well accessible, problematic is deficiency in follow-up care. On an example of five actual young women I demonstrate the above described variety of causes, course and treatment of the Anorexia Nervosa.