

**Abstract:**

The diploma thesis consists of two parts: Theoretical and Empirical. The Theoretical Part explains the basic meaning of the expression Intensive Care, the types of Intensive Care, its history and provides a description of an intensive care workplace and the health personnel working in Intensive Care (their education and competence). The thesis also deals with patients in Intensive Care and their needs. The objective of the Empirical Part was to ascertain the Czech general public knowledge and attitudes towards Intensive Care, their experience with Intensive Care as a patient or a person close to the patient. The methodology of the Empirical Part consists in a survey using questionnaires among Czech general public. The questionnaire was answered by 259 respondents. On the basis of statistical evaluation of respondents' data made by a statistics computer program, we found out the Czech general public is able to define the notion of Intensive Care and those who had their own experience with an intensive care workplace described the setting of the place as positive, which was a surprising finding. However, we also found out the respondents of our survey still lack information, and they would, therefore, appreciate to receive an information leaflet whenever entering into contact with an intensive care workplace. Having this finding in mind, an information leaflet was made as an output of the thesis.

**Keywords:** intensive care, lay public, information leaflet, health care workers, education, nursing care.