The degenerative diseases affect not only the central nervous system, but also attacks neurological, mainly motoric, functions. These diseases undoubtedly influence mental functions as well. In the theoretical part, the thesis focuses on a possible correlation between the psychical disposition – mainly emotional, and its influence on the development or progression of this kind of disease. Furthermore, the thesis concentrates on the cognitive alternations accompanying given diseases, on the patients’ behavioral changes and emotional alternation. The thesis also presents coping strategies and recommendations concerned with the issue of degenerative diseases of CNS based on the recent studies. A research proposal in the empirical part focuses on the effects of social support and coping strategies on the patient with ALS disease and it also explores the patients’ motivation and potential future goals which interfere with the quality of life.