Abstract

Informed consent presents interesting legal and ethical challenges that have been widely discussed both in Czech and foreign literature. Significant portion of the literature is concerned with a relationship between doctors and their patients and with the historical development of this relationship or with the principle of autonomy as one of the fundamental principles in the area of healthcare provision. Issues related to informed consent of minors or persons with limited legal capacity are often given only small amount of scholarly attention. It is for this reason that this diploma thesis deals solely with the issues related to the health care provided to minors and persons with limited legal capacity. The aim of this thesis is to create an integrated overview of the law regulating informed consent of these persons, to introduce the most important changes that have been made in recent years by the Act on Health Services and Conditions of Their Provision and by the Civil Code, and finally to add some of my reflections on selected issues which I find particularly problematic. The sixth chapter of the thesis focuses on a comparison between the Czech law and the English common law regulating informed consent of minors and persons with limited legal capacity. The issues of informed consent is an extremely actual topic and it will surely remain actual in the future. It is particularly interesting to observe how the medical practice deals with the present regulation and its changes recently made. The way in which the courts respond to these changes especially in relation to s. 100 and s. 101 of the Civil Code is equally interesting.