Abstract

Medical interventions such as interventions in the physical integrity of the patient are some of the most important interventions in the personal rights of individuals guaranteed by constitutional laws and international conventions. The basis for criminal law investigation of physician's procedure is an issue of professionally correct procedure (procedure called lege artis). The healthcare provision – including the interventions in the physical integrity of the patient – is perceived in Czech law as a law qualified activity undertaken for the purpose approved by the legal order. As a result of the constitution of informed consent of the patient with a medical procedure this fact must be taken into account when defining a new criminal characteristics of medical intervention. The dissertation aims to provide a comprehensive legal analysis of the criminal aspects related to decisions made by physicians and to the medically indicated care provision in the context of legislative changes in healthcare, recodification of criminal law as well as civil law. Issues related to active intentional termination of life on request of the patient (euthanasia) were not subject to the processing of this matter. The dissertation analyzes in detail the individual institutes of healthcare legislation, medico-legal aspects of decision making in the physician's practice and their consequences for criminal liability, including illustrations of real cases and defining problematic areas in relation to foreign legal regulations. Change of the hierarchy of values in healthcare provision is not reflected in terms of criminal law. It is recommended to do amendments to the Criminal Code in terms of integrating new merits involving arbitrary interventions in the physical integrity of the individual and respecting the individual's (patient's) right to self-determination as one of the most constitutionally protected values.