

Abstract

The diploma thesis deals with the issue of falls among the elderly placed in residential social care facilities. The author mainly focuses on the issue whether the falls can be viewed as a quality indicator of the offered care. The author deals with the issue of falls both on the general level (legislation, standards of quality) and also on the level of a specific residential social care provider represented by home for the elderly Sue Ryder in Prague. Further, the author deals with the issue of falls in inpatient healthcare facilities, as this issue is viewed as an important indicator in terms of comparing quality of care between social care and health care facilities. The key issue of the thesis are the ways to prevent falls of the elderly, so that their basic rights (especially the right to have their own choice), independence and self-sufficiency can be maintained, and also the intervention procedures in these cases. The aim of the thesis is to provide its readers with suggestions on how to improve quality of healthcare in terms of dealing with falls. These suggestions are based on the author's thorough examination of the relevant theoretical and legislative materials. The suggestions are further based on analyzing the fall records, covering a period of 18 months, provided by Sue Ryder facility, and various interviews of the employees and one client of the Sue Ryder facility.