Abstract

In the theoretical part of my theses I have dealt with lymphedema from the point of view of etiology and pathophysiology. I have described the lymph origin and transport, the lymphatics structure, the drenage of body parts to the corresponding regional lymphatic nodes and the lymphatic watershed. This basic theoretical knowledge is necessary for the understanding of the Complex decongestive therapy method, that is described in the practical part. Next I have described lymphedema classification, clinical depiction and diagnosis. I have shortly described the method of the Complex decongestive therapy.

In the practical part I have dealt with more detailed description of the method and with using it on a real patient. I have described the manual lymph drainage, the pneumo-pressotherapy, the compression therapy with the bandage and garments, the skin care and the patient education in the management of the lymphedema.

In the discussion part I have compared the lymphedema management at various departments in our country as well as at the foreign ones. I can pronounce, that the framework of lymphedema care is the same at all of the monitored departments and countries. The Complex decongestive therapy is the first-choice method at all of them.