

Abstract:

The thesis deals with ergonomics of home environment for patients after spinal cord injury. The main aim of the thesis is to highlight the importance of ergonomics and its impact on self-sufficiency of patients. It focuses especially on quadriplegic patients.

The first theoretical part of the thesis summarizes general findings about spinal cord injury which are followed by characteristics of quadriplegic patients. The expert knowledge of ergonomics and occupational therapy shows their close interconnection linked with the issues of home environment of patients. The theoretical part is concluded by a list of requirements for wheelchair accessibility in home environment in accordance with Decree No. 398/2009 Coll. on general technical requirements to secure barrier-free usage of buildings.

The second practical part of the thesis investigates the problem situations of three quadriplegic patients in detail. The main focus of the thesis is to examine the patients and their home environment. The tool Quadruplegia index of function was modified for this purpose to assess self-sufficiency and the methodology SEMAFOR home: Smart Evaluation Methodology of Accessibility FOR home was used to identify the problem areas of home environment of the patients. The results of the test methods were completed by the conclusions from interviewing and observing the patients. The conclusion of the practical part states the impact of occupational therapy intervention on the self-sufficiency of patients after their re-examination.

The thesis confirms the essential interconnection of ergonomics and occupational therapy. The role of an occupational therapist supported by practical research increases the satisfaction, safety and self-sufficiency of patients.

Keywords: home environment, ergonomics, occupational therapy, quadriplegia, self-sufficiency