## **ABSTRACT**

The rapid development of the intensive care medicine with a large amount of highly specific information requires sufficiently educated nurses in the field. A nurse anesthetist is a nurse working in intensive care with a focus on anesthesiology. She provides highly specialized nursing care to patients during the course of general or local anesthesia.

The work is divided into two parts, a theoretical part and a practical part. The theoretical part focuses on the development of anesthesiology and intensive care medicine. It also focuses on the education of nurses. The education of nurses is summarised from historical beginnings to the present time. This part also includes new requirements for the education of non-medical medical staff and the current supporting legislation. Higher education for intensive care is also mentioned. The next chapter of the theoretical part focuses on the competencies of nurses in anesthesiology and intensive care medicine. The practical part includes interviews with six nurses. Three interviews were conducted with nurses that witnessed the beginnings of the field of anesthesiology as we know it nowadays. The method of qualitative research, study of documents, analysis of primary archival sources of the Ministry of Health, NLK, ÚVN, legislation, periodicals, professional books and articles were used.

The aim of the diploma thesis was to map the origin and gradual development of the nurse anesthetist, her education and her competencies. The work can be presented at professional congresses, used for study or published in professional journals.

**keywords:** history of nursing, nurse anesthetist, anestesiology, interview, competences, education