

## **ABSTRACT**

The aim of this thesis was to find which factors prevail to influence the decisions that nurses make in intensive care and on what basis they decide. The work is divided into theoretical and empirical part. In the theoretical part the terms such as decision, decision-making situations, mistakes in decision-making have been determined, and the issues concerning the decisions in nursing and in the competences of nurses connected with decisions have been analysed. In the empirical part the results of questionnaire regarding the decisions of nurses in intensive care have been processed and analysed. 97 subjects among the nurses in intensive care have taken part in the testing.

From the analysis of the data received from the questionnaire there comes out that the majority of nurses in intensive care (74 %) are not convinced that the school has prepared them for making decisions from both the theoretical and practical point of view. On contrary, the majority of nurses in intensive care are convinced that their education (79 %) and practice (97 %) may enable decisions. The majority of nurses in intensive care (96 %) are able to make independent decisions mostly in the area of basic nursing care. The majority of nurses in intensive care (72 %) experience stress during their decision-making. The nurses are mostly stressed of lack of time (80, 4 %), little information about an existing problem (60 %) and of scanty instructions from the part of a physician (53 %). Roughly estimated a third of nurses (33 %), however, feel satisfaction when making decisions. The nurses in intensive care evaluate their decisions made in stress situations mostly as right ones.

*Keywords:*

*nurses in intensive care, decision-making, factors influencing decision-making, competences.*