

## **ABSTRACT**

This thesis is focused on the nursing care for patient after valvular defects surgery. The aim of this final paper is to ascertain the principles of specialized nursing care for patient after valvular defects surgery, analyse the condition of written standards for providing aftercare to patients who underwent valvular defects surgery, or the state of the nursing protocols in specialized nursing care. The purpose of qualitative - observational research in providing specialized nursing care is to find an answer to the question of whether the specifics of nursing care in Prague cardiac centres are significantly different.

The theoretical section contains chapters describing cardiac centres, the history of surgical treatment of heart valves, and the most common valvular heart defects in adulthood. In the theoretical section of this study, I focus in detail on the nursing care for patients following cardiac procedure, ensuring not to forget the monitoring of physiological functions, artificial pulmonary ventilation, and immediate position after elective cardiac surgery.

The empirical section is divided into quantitative and qualitative research. The quantitative empirical investigation is focused on an anonymous questionnaire survey that has been applied in three Prague cardiac centres. Approximately 150 respondents working at post-surgical intensive care units were reached, of which 100 were involved in the questionnaire investigation. The quantitative research has brought insights into the knowledge of nurses on the issue. In the qualitative - observational research I used the method of obvious observation to describe 6 patients after cardiac surgery. In conclusion to this research, it can be said that the specifics of nursing care do not differ significantly. However, certain differences were observed in the immediate position after surgery, in the implementation of respiratory rehabilitation, pharmacotherapy and the monitoring instruments that have been used. Simultaneously, the principles of specialized nursing care for patient after surgery of valvular defects, as well as written nursing standards at intensive care and resuscitation units were identified. Based on the obtained knowledge, a draft nursing standard for these patients was created.

## **KEYWORDS**

Valvular defects, heart diseases, prosthetic heart valves, cardiac surgery, cardiology, nursing care