

ANNOTATION:

The diploma thesis „Alternatives of dignified dying in the Czech Republic“ deals with the current situation in the Czech health system in the area of patients in the terminal stage of life and their choices of selecting their „last journey“ so that the end of their life could have sufficient quality, dignity and empathic responsiveness of all involved and contributing people. It introduces various terms that are connected with accompanying the dying and explains such terms. This thesis comprehensively describes the different stages and parts of dying not only from a medical perspective, but also ethical, biological, psychological and ultimately spiritual. This work also tries to outline a prediction of future years of how people should take their last journey. From a practical point of view, this thesis uses the methodology of structured interviews with different categories of helpers that come into direct contact with patients in the terminal stage of their lives. The reason of using this methodology is to extend the work on view of professionally-practical aspects of the topic (the view from a different viewing angle).