

This diploma work deals with end of life issues from the view of the students graduating from nursing school, specializing as practical nurses and students graduating from nursing college, specializing as diploma practical nurses. The theoretical part looks at the issues from both the historical and the present point of view and includes the basic terms, stages of dying, human reaction to illness and coming death, lenitive care, hospice movement, the needs of the dying and their attendance. It describes adolescence as an important ontogenetic stage of life and it deals with the future health carers training in care about the dying. The research part uncovers students' attitude towards dying and death, knowledge of the dying needs according to the lenitive care principles and their subjective readiness to care about the incurably ill.