

## **Abstract**

After 1989, we have seen a great development of hospice and palliative care in the Czech Republic. At that period, the first hospice institutions came into being which later broadened their concepts on providing also the at-home care. The main aim of this thesis is to characterize the available concepts of the care of the dying patients in their home environment in the Czech Republic. The initial theoretical section introduces the definitions of the basic concepts of palliative and hospice care; the characteristics of the key institutions providing the at-home care; and deals with the hospice and palliative care legislative. The practical part, based on the use of the qualitative research design and semi-structured interviews, helps to show the experience of various providers of palliative services. The analytic part depicts two concepts of the care of the dying people, which were identified on the base of the interviews and which are currently available to patients.

**Keywords:** hospice care, palliative care, mobile hospice, specialized mobile palliative care, general practitioner, home care, social services, care of the dying patients, dying, death