

## **ABSTRACT**

The presented master thesis is focused on the issue of atopic eczema. The aim of the thesis was to map the experiences of young adult women with atopic eczema, with an emphasis on their subjective experience of this disease. The thesis is divided into a theoretical part and an empirical part. The theoretical part of the thesis introduces the reader to the topic. It defines the term atopic eczema, describes its specifics, forms, etiopathogenesis and treatment options. It also deals with the psychosomatic approach as one of the possible approaches to this disease. In the theoretical part, the psychosocial aspects of atopic eczema are also taken into account, including the impact of the diagnosis on the quality of life of adult patients. The theoretical part is followed by the empirical part. Here are presented the results of a qualitative study in which eight semi-structured interviews were conducted with young adult women who were diagnosed with atopic eczema during their lifetime. By analyzing the data obtained, nine main categories were identified, which capture the individual experiences of women with atopic eczema. These are the categories of specifics of eczema, triggering factors, eczema as an obstacle, emotions associated with eczema, methods of managing eczema, reactions of the environment, eczema and partner relationship, experience with the health system and benefits of eczema. At the end of the thesis, the obtained data are compared with the theoretical starting points.

## **KEYWORDS**

Atopic eczema, skin disease, experience, self-concept, quality of life