

Abstract

The aim of this bachelor thesis is to explore how compassion fatigue and compassion satisfaction are related to the tendency of volunteers to leave hospice services.

The theoretical part of the bachelor thesis mainly focuses on explaining the concepts of palliative and hospice care. Furthermore, the differences between inpatient and mobile hospice are briefly defined. The general understanding of volunteering is also discussed, which is then placed in the context of palliative and hospice care. In detail, the thesis focuses mainly on the volunteers' experience, i.e. the benefits, possible risks and reasons why some volunteers leave the services. The theoretical section concludes by introducing the concept of professional quality of life and its subcomponents, i.e. compassion satisfaction, burnout and secondary traumatic stress.

The empirical part of the bachelor thesis is mainly quantitative. Its main aim is to explore whether compassion fatigue and compassion satisfaction have any relationship with the tendency of volunteers to leave hospice services. The second aim was mainly exploratory, focusing on what values of compassion fatigue and compassion satisfaction are achieved by Czech hospice volunteers. A statistically significant relationship was found between compassion satisfaction and tendency to drop out. The results of the correlational and exploratory analyses were further discussed in the context of the studies presented in the theoretical section along with the limitations of the thesis.