

The topic of this Bachelor thesis is the bereavement care in hospitals, with focus on the situations that arise when a patient is expected to die. Firstly, the thesis explains the process of grieving and its phases. Then it looks at principles of self-help and support from non-professional and professional care services. Emphasizing the valuable function of a funeral in the process of dealing with loss of a close person. Secondly, the role of the hospital is explained, including the procedure of treatment of the dead body and the corresponding laws and settled practices. The thesis explains how the patient's death is communicated to the bereaved ones whilst still in hospital. Finally, a survey research was conducted in the Ústřední Vojenská Nemocnice hospital in Prague, with the goal of finding out the services offered to bereaved people. Also the survey investigated the way in which the hospital's staff understand their role in bereavement care.