

KOMENSKÁ, K. (2011): The Analysis of Ethical Codes in the Health Care Professions in Slovakia (Professions of Physicians, Nurses and Midwives). In: *Ethics & Bioethics*, 1(1-2), pp. 25 – 32, ISSN: 1338-5615

Abstract

The paper analyzes ethical codes in the health care profession in Slovakia while considering the four principle approach in medical ethics formulated by Beauchamp and Childress. For these purposes, the individual principles of this theory are identified and presented in light of performance in the health care profession. The second part introduces the main legal documents which represent the professional codes of ethics for physicians, nurses and midwives in Slovakia. In those, I have tried to identify the presence of basic principles of medical ethics and the way they are formulated in the Slovak health care system. The aim is to show the capabilities of professional health care ethics in Slovakia to react to current trends of medical ethics and models within the health care system.

Keywords: health care system, respect for autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence, justice

Katarína Komenská is a PhD. student at the Institute of Philosophy and Ethics, University of Prešov (Slovakia). Her main research interest is based in bioethics. She has published the articles *Reflections on ethical principles of medical ethics in the Professional code for health care administrators* (2011) and *Reflexia hodnoty zdravia a systému zdravotnej starostlivosti vo volebných programoch politických strán SR 2010* [The value of health and health care system principles in the electoral program of Slovak political parties in the 2010 Parliamentary Election] (2011).

Corresponding author:

Katarína Komenská, Institute of Philosophy and Ethics, University of Prešov, 17. novembra 1, SK-08078 Prešov (Slovakia)
Email: katarina.komenska@yahoo.com