

## **Appendix no. 1**

to resolution no. 28/15 of the Council of the Faculty of Health Sciences of 22 January 2015

### **Instructions for writing a diploma thesis in the form of a case study (prepared by the Program and Teaching Commission for Nursing and Midwifery)**

The regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 9 May 2012 on standards of education for the medical, dentistry, pharmacy, nursing and midwifery programmes specifies that a diploma thesis written by first-cycle students of the nursing and midwifery programmes takes the form of a case study.

An exception from this rule can be made for students of first-cycle programmes who wish to write a research thesis (see: Rules for writing a diploma thesis) – this applies to students with scientific achievements (active participation in scientific conferences – poster or presentation, authorship or co-authorship of at least one scientific publication) or students who actively participate in research teams or the Student Scientific Society. A review paper is not the recommended type of diploma thesis for students of nursing and midwifery writing in the scope of basic and specialist nursing and midwifery care.

Writing a case study/research paper requires obtaining the approval of the Bioethics Committee at NCU Collegium Medicum as well as a written consent to access medical records of the patient/patients participating in the study.

Approval of the Bioethics Committee is not required if the thesis is based on a theoretical description of a medical case.

In order to write a case study paper, it is necessary to select a patient, a family environment or a school environment with which the student has dealt in person (during practical classes, work placement or personal professional activity), including making an independent assessment of health status, preparing a diagnosis, and carrying out a full scope of nursing activities in accordance with the principles of nursing care.

#### **TITLE**

Not more than 12 words

#### **ABSTRACT** (in Polish and English)

Not more than 100-150 words

#### **KEYWORDS**

Optimally 3-6 words

#### **STRUCTURE**

- **Introduction** – covering the scope of knowledge related to the presented medical case (disease entity/medical condition), based on available literature and most recent epidemiological data (recent literature = research papers not older than 5 years, books not older than 10 years, if possible);
- **Objective** – describing the aim of the thesis;
- **Case study** – consisting of two parts:
  - Part 1A: description (based on history taking, observation, physical examination, medical records analysis, laboratory tests, imaging diagnostics; using scales and questionnaires); it is possible to include medical test results and images in the thesis as long as they are essential; if any images of the patient are used, it must be impossible to recognise the person (patient consent must be obtained before publishing images);
  - Part 1B: nursing diagnosis;

- Part 2: Working with the case:
  - defining and listing the hierarchy of the patient's health-related and nursing problems; designing a full nursing care plan as follows:
    1. naming the problem (current or potential),
    2. determining the objective and desired outcomes (the target condition); the objectives should:
      - be described with precision,
      - be feasible,
      - include the expected time of fulfilment;
    3. formulating the plan of action, which should include:
      - specific tasks to be completed – nursing interventions together with explanation,
      - selection of means, persons and methods,
      - expected time of completion,
      - coordination with the treatment plan;
    4. executing the plan of action:
      - description of available means and resources of a given department or environment,
      - organisation of work, possibility to cooperate with the patient and their family,
      - presentation of documented nursing interventions;
    5. making an evaluation: comparison between the expected and actual results;
    6. making conclusions concerning the results of nursing care (selecting and describing one/two conclusions);
- Discussion – analysis and comparison of the presented case against information found in literature, with particular reference to:
  - typicality/regularity (confirming the available literature), or
  - abnormality of the clinical picture/course or the selected elements/stages of treatment or care (original observation),
  - indication of novelty of observations or gaps in current knowledge (if possible).

Recommendations:

1. Literature – at least 30 current references (including no more than 5 textbooks), prepared in accordance with rules set down by the university (see: rules for writing diploma theses at the Faculty of Health Sciences).
2. Note: References must be given for all cited paragraphs. A citing of over 200 consecutive words or a total of over 400 words requires the consent of the author/publisher.

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