



ERIS Web Journal 2/2014

Professional Identity Perception of Hospital Social Workers in Slovakia

Nad'a Kovalčíková, Lukáš Pavelek, Miriam Slaná, Martina Žáková

Abstract

The paper discusses the topic of professional identity of social workers in hospital settings. The authors describe the development of hospital social work in Slovak Republic from 1920's until present day. They emphasize how the political and social changes in that period influenced the status and development of social work as a profession and what are the requirements for the performance of social work at present time. The article also presents the findings on professional identity of social workers, mainly the status of the profession, to what extent social workers identify with their profession, how they define the relationship of social work to other disciplines, and finally, how they describe their professional approach toward the clients.

Key words

Social worker, hospital setting, professional identity, perception