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The rights of psychiatric patients, especially in the field of dementia care

Rita Zakor-Broda¹

¹University of Debrecen Faculty of Health Sciences

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Given the demographics of Hungary's population, the aging process and the change in the age composition project an increasingly worrying future. In an aging society, both the provision of care within the social sector and the provision of specialist care within the health sector are facing an ever-increasing anomaly. The growing number of people over the age of 65, including mostly demented people, as well as people who are limited in self-care and need professional help, must be provided to an increasing extent by the care systems. We are facing a current problem that has affected almost every family directly or indirectly. It is not only the provision of professional care that must be solved for the family members, but also the knowledge of the legal regulation of the special situation during the care, the knowledge of the rights and obligations for the care provider, as well as for the patients and their relatives.

In my presentation, I would like to present the particular characteristics of psychiatric patients, especially the situation of demented persons, their care and their rights.

From the point of view of the topic presentation, I consider it essential to present the legal environment determined from the aspect of basic human rights, referring to domestic and international legal sources and guidelines.

I characterize the possibilities of institutional medical treatment, as well as address the legal peculiarities, rights, and obligations necessary for care, which largely define the target group and are essential for the proper functioning of the legal environment of care.

I am looking for the answer to what kind of interdisciplinary, interprofessional collaborations would be the solution to ensure a higher moral and professional standard of care for the affected target group. How the legal environment can influence the problems arising from the overload and lack of professionals in the health and social care system. Not only the modification of the legislative environment, but also the strengthening of the practical cooperation of the institutional systems raises the relevance of the initiatives coming from below and the importance of the topic.

Dementia professions need an approach and a vision that supports effective and efficient dementia care that always focuses on the elderly patient. A change of attitude is needed in terms of the enforcement of basic rights affecting elderly people, which take into account their needs and think together with the definition of a legislative environment that offers options.

The author:

dr. Rita Zakor-Broda

lawyer, assistant lecturer

Faculty of Health Sciences, Institute of Social and Social Sciences, University of Debrecen, Department of Social Sciences and Social Work