

Care of critically ill children in the Czech Republic is provided by 13 paediatric urgent care centres; however, none of these facilities is able to provide care of patients with infectious and/or highly contagious diseases, in an appropriate quality and while observing hygienic-epidemiological conditions. While resuscitation care of children with infectious and/or highly contagious diseases represents a long-term problem not yet resolved in the ČR, isolated IP beds would be needed for 20 to 30 children yearly considering the current composition of FTNsP patients, and for ca. 60 – 90 children in the Prague region. From the countrywide point of view, such care is needed by about 200 – 300 children yearly, especially children suffering from diarrhoea, severe pneumonia, meningitis and other, less frequent diagnoses.

The envisaged project seeks to change this situation and to build two isolated beds of intensive care at the FTNsP Paediatric Clinic of the 1st Faculty of Medicine and IPVZ, where care of children in critical conditions can be provided, under the strictest hygienic and epidemiological measures. The first one of the new beds shall be used for treatment of children suffering from highly contagious diseases, the other one for children with infectious of another type. The workplace of the project implementing party is especially suitable for this purpose as the implementing party has long-term experience in paediatric intensive medicine and very good transportation serviceability within Prague as well as the whole of the Czech Republic (heliport). Support and consulting activities are ensured, both by specialists in infectious diseases in general and on part of the Pneumological Clinic, specialized in TBC treatment.

Project implementation is planned for one year. During the first 10 months, spatial organizational changes shall occur, leading to creation of isolated beds, device equipment and creation of care protocols. The last two months shall then be devoted to the very care of paediatric patients with infectious and/or highly contagious diseases requiring resuscitation or intensive care, care protocol adjustments, strengthening of bonds with other specialists and workplaces, and publicity of the newly formed centre.

Thanks to the project, a unique workplace shall be created in the Czech Republic, equipped with two isolated, paediatric ICU beds with a team of specialists who shall fill a marked gap in care of paediatric patients with infectious and/or highly contagious diseases in severe conditions. As establishment and equipment of isolation IRCU rooms represents a marked share of financial inputs and the very care to be provided shall be covered by health insurance companies, the costs to ensure project continuity shall not represent a marked burden for the implementing party, and it will be thus possible to use the full life-time of both beds.

Moreover, from the very beginning of implementation, team members shall be paid from FTNsP resources and there is thus no risk that in the long-term horizon, continuity of the resource used to cover the salary costs shall not be ensured. The created unit will thus be able to function as a supra-regional centre even upon termination of the project, and in the long run it will thus be able to contribute to the system of measures to prevent spreading of hazardous infections within the European Union.