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## CRIMINAL LIABILITY OF THE HEALTHCARE SPECIALIST – THE NURSE <sup>8</sup>

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**Abstract:** *The purpose of this scientific work is to trace the contradictions regarding the criminal liability of the nurse in the Republic of Bulgaria. The tasks are aimed at examining the criminal law of Bulgaria in relation to the criminal liability of the nurse as a healthcare specialist. An important point in the publication is the analysis of existing terms related to the topic and the proposed new formulations that distinguish the criminal liability of the nurse from the criminal liability of all other medical professionals. Emphasis is placed on the need to put into practice nursing records, including an individual nursing record, as well as medical standards for health care. This will differentiate exactly the responsibility that the nurse might claim in the event of a job failure. The introduction of nursing records will lead to an increase in the quality of healthcare in the country. Nursing is a complex profession with a socially relevant function and, as such, requires a high level of competence and qualification, which in turn justifies increased responsibility - both civil and criminal.*

**Keywords:** *Criminal liability, Nurse, Nursing, Nursing records, Health care standard.*

**JEL Codes:** *K14, I18*

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