

BVMedReport № 02/15

February 2015
Circulation: 2,200

Improvements of Medtech Benefit Assessment

Berlin. In November 2014, the German Federal Ministry of Health held an internal hearing of interest groups on the Law on Stabilization and Structural Reform of the Statutory Health Insurance. The medtech companies were able to achieve several improvements that found their way into the Federal Cabinet's decision in December 2014. The benefit assessment for new examination and treatment methods will now only apply to methods of a particularly invasive character. Earlier, all medical devices of classes II b and III had been included. The trial period will be shortened to two years. The Joint Federal Committee, JFC, will be obligated to advise manufacturers and hospitals. The bill will be discussed in Parliament starting at the end of January 2015 and is intended to become effective in summer 2015.

Key Points of the Hospital Reform Determined

Berlin. The German federal government and the federal states agreed on the key points of the hospital reform. The treatment quality will play a role in hospital remuneration. In addition, the government and the states have agreed on a structural fund of 500 million euros. Furthermore, a working group will review how the voluntary Endoprosthesis Register can be transformed into a mandatory data base from 2016 onwards.

Germany Working on a National Diabetes Strategy

Berlin. The government wants to step up the fight against diabetes through more information and better access to therapies. Around 6.7 million German people suffer from diabetes; 270,000 people are expected to be newly diagnosed every year.

Reumann Is the New DKG President

Berlin. **Thomas Reumann** has been elected new President of the German Hospital Federation (Deutsche Krankenhausgesellschaft, DKG). He succeeds **Alfred Daenzer**.

Follow us on Twitter:
www.twitter.com/bvmed

2015: "Joint Quality Campaign"

Berlin. In 2015, BVMed is going to support a joint quality campaign by statutory health insurances, hospitals, doctors, and the industry with the goal of further improving patient care and optimizing the procedures in the healthcare system. "A good example is the Endoprosthesis Register, EPRD, in which the Specialist Medical Association, statutory health insurance funds, and the industry are cooperating," emphasized BVMed CEO **Joachim M. Schmitt**. BVMed also supports a broad public debate on the importance of a timely access to new medical technologies for patients.

With the inter-ministerial "Strategy Process for Innovations in Medical Technology", the federal

government had set the right course to further improve the translation of innovation into practical application with the purpose of making progress in medical technology available for patients at a faster pace. "The strategy process will continue, also in 2015. We truly support this process," said Schmitt. BVMed sees further positive approaches in the "Innovation Fund" to support the development of cross-sectoral types of care and healthcare research, and in a cross-sectoral quality assurance based on routine data on account of the new quality institute.

Read more on this subject at: MedInsight Germany, www.bvmed.de/medinsight.

Compliance: "Do Not Criminalize Cooperation"

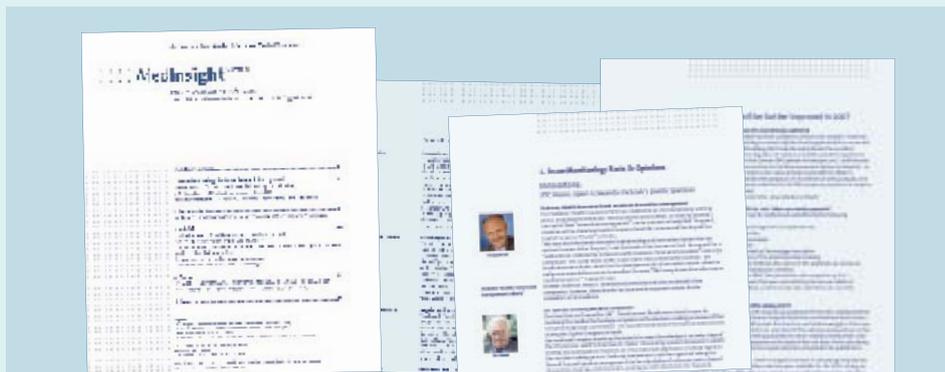
Berlin. "The necessary and desirable cooperation between physicians, medical institutions, and businesses must not be criminalized," demanded BVMed deputy chairman of the board, **Christiane Doering**, at the 6th BVMed Healthcare Compliance Conference. The anti-corruption amendment of the penal code currently in discussion had to ensure that "cooperation between physicians and other service providers to improve patient care remains possible in the fu-

ture," said Doering.

Healthcare compliance – that is obeying the rules on cooperation in the healthcare economy – is playing an ever increasing role in practice. Experts at the BVMed conference, however, cautioned against excessive requirements which would eventually prevent any reasonable cooperation between businesses and physicians.

More information on healthcare compliance at: www.medtech-kompass.de.

MedInsight Germany: Latest News on Europe's Biggest Market!



MedInform has published the new February issue of MedInsight Germany, a background report authored by the German medtech experts **Joachim M. Schmitt** and **Manfred Beeres** in cooperation with Advamed. MedInsight gives the latest news on Europe's biggest medtech market.

Topics of the new issue are e. g.: Improvements of Medtech Benefit Assessment; Key Points of the German Hospital Reform Determined; Germany Working on a National Diabetes Strategy; Wasem Predicts

Rising Health Insurance Contributions; Cardiovascular Diseases Most Common Cause of Death; Knee Joint Endoprosthesis: Minimum Numbers in Force Again; Government Intensifies Healthcare Research.

Advamed, Eucomed and BVMed member companies receive "MedInsight Germany" at a discounted subscription price of 600 euros per year (10 issues). The normal subscription fee is 1,200 euros for one year. You can order a free trial copy of MedInsight at: www.medinsight.de