

# BVMedReport № 02/19

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## CDU chair: Jens Spahn both losing and winning

Berlin. **Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer** was elected as the new chairperson of the CDU, Germany's governing center-right party in December 2018. Her election marks the end of a tight race between three candidates all aspiring to replace **Angela Merkel** as head of the CDU. Health Minister **Jens Spahn** failed in the first ballot with 15 percent of the votes. However, he was by far the youngest candidate and may thus be considered as a winner of the party convention. He was subsequently voted into the party's presidium with the best result. If Kramp-Karrenbauer was not successful, "it should be Spahn's turn," according to experts in the party.

## "Implant Files":

### Spahn wants to set up a register

Berlin. The worldwide "Implant Files" campaign attracted quite some media attention in November and December 2018. However, the political consequences were limited: The German Health Minister **Jens Spahn** announced the introduction of a central register for implants in the near future, a project that has already been part of the coalition agreement since 2013 and has been supported by the medtech industry.

## Spahn's e-health topics for 2019

Berlin. Health Minister **Jens Spahn** sees room for improvement concerning the digitization of the German healthcare system and the performance of the "Gesellschaft für Telematikanwendungen der Gesundheitskarte" (Gematik). Their structure has led to decisions being "delayed as a result of a compromise," said Spahn. Above all, experts criticize the medical profession for blocking the e-health approach.

## Medtech industry meets start-ups

Berlin. The second "MedTech Radar Live" will take place on June 5, 2019, in Berlin. Medtech founders are brought together with companies, insurance funds, and investors. The goal of the event is to show how innovations can be launched despite increasing regulatory hurdles. Find further information on the start-up pitch at [www.medtechradar.live](http://www.medtechradar.live).

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## Renewal of medtech strategy process

Berlin. At the turn of the year 2018/2019, BVMed called for an immediate start of the medtech strategy process envisioned in the coalition agreement, on a high political level. "Medtech companies want to use this support to more rapidly implement scientific results in everyday healthcare, and thus be able to promptly provide patients with the benefits of medtech progress. What is more, the entire health economy must accelerate the digitization process. We need reliable standards set by policymakers," said BVMed CEO **Joachim M. Schmitt**.

The 2018 coalition agreement between CDU/CSU and SPD stipulates: "We will continue the e-health initiative and the medtech strategy process, in order to strengthen Germany's health industry in a sustainable, future-proof way. We will also con-

tinue the pharma dialog." The pharma dialog has already started in the new legislative period at the level of state secretaries. For the medtech industry it is now necessary to renew a structured, cross-sectoral medtech strategy process, according to BVMed sources.

The pressure for change and the wish for more dynamic evaluation systems bringing useful applications faster to the patient will eventually come from the patients themselves, according to BVMed. For example, diabetes treatment: in the US, a first "closed loop system" with continuous glucose testing and an insulin pump controlled by intelligent algorithms is already on the market. In Europe, diabetics are waiting impatiently for this innovation.

More at [www.medinsight.de](http://www.medinsight.de).

## Dr. Moell follows BVMed CEO Joachim M. Schmitt

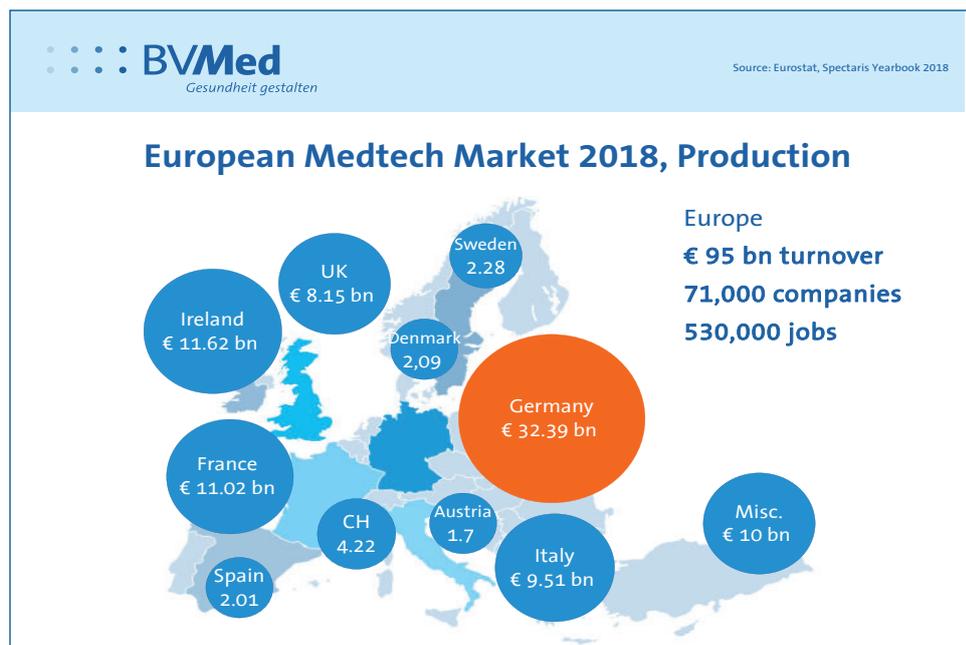
Berlin. **Dr. Marc-Pierre Möll** (53) will take over as managing director of the German Medical Technology Association (BVMed) as of April 1, 2019. He succeeds **Joachim M. Schmitt** (67), who will hand over the management of the association to a younger successor after 34 years in office. Dr. Marc-Pierre Möll has many years of experience in healthcare politics. Since 2008 he has been responsible for the area "Government and Parliament" at the Association of Private Health Insurance Funds (PKV). Before that time he held various positions in the German parliament.

Joachim M. Schmitt started working for BVMed in

1985 in the position of Deputy Managing Director and became Managing Director of BVMed in 1990; in April 2002 he was also appointed a member of the board of BVMed.

"Mr. Schmitt has been the face of the German medical technology industry for over three decades," said Dr. Meinrad Luga. "With his reasoned and fact-based work he has made BVMed a renowned and respected partner for politics and business. I would like to thank him for this on behalf of the board, the staff of the office of BVMed, and all our member companies."

Read more at [www.medinsight.de](http://www.medinsight.de).



Within Europe, German medical technology companies account for by far the largest share. Of the approximately 95 billion euros in sales, 32.4 billion euros (including small companies) were accounted for by companies based in Germany, followed by Ireland, France, Italy, and Great Britain.