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CDU/CSU and SPD Present Coalition Agreement

Berlin. German Conservative parties CDU/CSU and the Social Democrats (SPD) announced the successful completion of their coalition negotiations. A members' poll is going on until March 2, 2018, among the SPD, deciding on the issue of another Grand Coalition.

Jens Spahn Intended to Become Health Minister

Berlin. Chancellor **Angela Merkel** has announced the six ministers represented by the CDU. 37-year-old **Jens Spahn**, the current State Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, is to become the next Minister of Health. **Hermann Gröhe** has to quit office and will not be represented in the new cabinet anymore. **Peter Altmaier**, former Minister of the Chancellery Office, is meant to become Minister of Commerce. He will be succeeded by the physician **Prof. Dr. Helge Braun**. CDU Member of Parliament **Anja Karliczek** is set as next Minister of Research and Education.

DRG Rates to Be Restructured

Berlin. Christian Democrats and SPD are planning a crucial transformation of the DRG system. So far, personnel costs have been included in the DRGs. As can be seen from the coalition agreement, these costs are now intended to be remunerated separately from the lump-sum case rates, based on individually negotiated, hospital-specific prices.

Heart Report: Good Therapies, Poor Prevention

Berlin. Not all of the trends seen during recent years have spread to the cardiac health of the population in Germany, the new German Heart Report 2017 displays. Despite constantly improving medical care, morbidity and mortality increased slightly in 2015 for most heart diseases, with few exceptions. According to heart specialists, one reason for this development is the limited degree of prevention in adults.

MedInsight Germany: March 2018 Issue Is Out

Berlin. Get the latest news on Europe's biggest medtech market: MedInsight Germany is a background report by BVMed and AdvaMed. Order a free trial copy: insight@medinform.de. More: www.medinsight.de.

Coalition Agreement: Positive Medtech Elements

Berlin. The medtech companies organized in BVMed intend to use the continuation of the "Medtech Strategy Process" provided for in the CDU/CSU/SPD coalition agreement to achieve a "new culture of progress in the further development and improvement of patient care in Germany through new technical solutions." The cooperation and interaction between the health, research, and economic ministries is very important for this process. All three ministries will be led by the CDU party. "We want a positive atmosphere for medical technical progress and a faster translation of research results into healthcare," said BVMed CEO Joachim M. Schmitt. From the perspective of the medtech industry,

the medical technology strategy process must aim, among others, at adjusting the reimbursement and assessment systems to the dynamic pace of medical and technical advances. The coalition agreement includes good elements in this regard. One of the requests, for example, is that medical innovations should be integrated in the standard of care at a faster pace and that the G-BA procedures should be accelerated to this end. The Grand Coalition has recognized that faster decisions on new examination and treatment methods are necessary for providing good, state-of-the-art healthcare. Read more at www.medinsight.de.

New Data Protection Law: The Countdown Is On

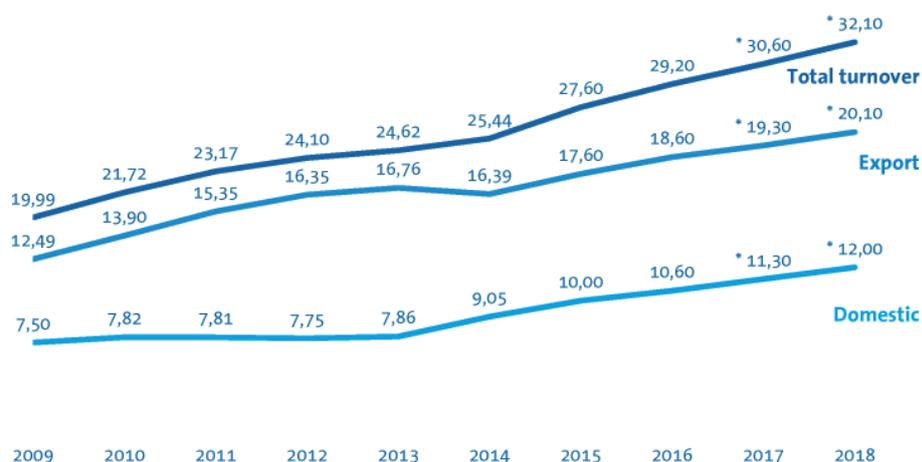
Berlin. The countdown has begun: On May 25, 2018, the new European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will become enforceable, replacing the German Federal Data Protection Act (BDSG). At the same time, there is an amended version of the BDSG that will also come into effect on May 25, 2018. The new data protection law brings with it a multitude of new rules and requirements. Among them are suitable technical and organizational measures to protect against

cyber attacks, keeping a log of all technical and organizational activities of data processing, data protection impact assessment and documented proof of how the data protection rules are being implemented. Experts elucidated these points at the BVMed conference "Data protection in the healthcare industry" held in February 2018 in Cologne.

More at: www.medinsight.de.

Turnover of the German MedTech Industry

in billion euros (* 2017/18: estimation)



Export quota: 64 percent

Quelle: Spectaris, Wirtschaftsstatistik

Germany is the third biggest market for medical technologies in the world. The total revenue of the manufacturing medical technology companies (considered are those with more than 20 employees) in Germany is 32 billion euros. The

export rate is at around 64 percent. The German medtech market is about twice as large as the French and three times as large as the British or Italian market.

More at: www.bvmed.de/branchenbericht.