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Angela Merkel: Immediate Healthcare Action Program

Berlin. In her first statement on her fourth term as Chancellor, **Angela Merkel** announced an “immediate action program to improve healthcare for the members of the statutory health insurance.” Aspects that required attention and had to be implemented immediately were improvements regarding the appointment-making service points and the remuneration of general practitioners. Furthermore, a program for the care of elderly people has been announced by health politicians.

CDU Divided Over DRG Future

Berlin. **Karin Maag** and **Karl-Josef Laumann**, two leading healthcare politicians from the governing CDU party, have come out in favor of the plan to cease financing nursing care via case-based lump sums (German Diagnosis-Related Groups, G-DRG) as has been laid out in the coalition agreement. Earlier during the national DRG Forum their party colleagues, Health Minister **Jens Spahn** and **Erwin Rüdell**, head of the healthcare committee, had expressed their skepticism towards these plans. More at: www.medinsight.de

Parliamentary Groups Reject EU HTA Proposal

Berlin. The European Commission proposal for greater harmonization of the evaluation of medical drugs and medical devices has been rejected by the German parliament. The intention of the proposal was the complete harmonization of the so-called Health Technology Assessment (HTA), the parliamentary groups of CDU/CSU, SPD, FDP, and the Green Party criticized in their joint parliamentary motion. At the end of January, the European Commission had presented a proposal for the increased cooperation of the EU member states in the evaluation of medical drugs and medical devices.

MedInsight Germany: May 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 at: insight@medinform.de. More at: www.medinsight.de.

BVMed Relies on “Medtech Strategy Process”

Berlin. BVMed has great hopes for the continuation of the “Innovations in Medical Technology Strategy Process” stipulated in the coalition agreement. “We want a positive atmosphere for medical and technical progress and a faster translation of research results into applied healthcare,” said BVMed chairman of the board **Dr. Meinrad Lugan** at the general meeting of the association held in Berlin at the end of April 2018. “The cooperation and interaction between the health, research, and economic ministries is very important for this process,” the BVMed chairman added. The medical technology strategy process should aim, among others, at adjusting the reimbursement and assessment systems to the dynamics

of medical and technical advances. According to Mr. Lugan, the medtech industry is undergoing a dramatic change. “Digitization provides the basis for an increasing collection and cross-linking of data in all medical care and business areas. New business models are emerging. Innovation, production, and sales processes are changing.” At the same time, new players such as Google, Apple, Facebook, or Amazon are increasingly entering the healthcare market. “The goal of new partnerships in the digital age is to streamline processes, drive innovation, and work together to improve the quality of patient care,” stated the BVMed chairman. Read more at www.medinsight.de.

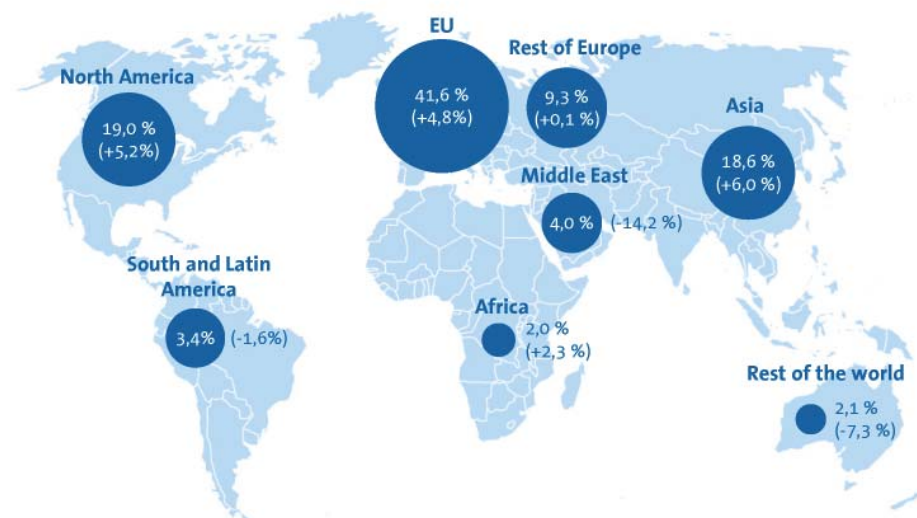
First Medtech Start-up Pitch Day

Berlin. Strategic cooperation between medical technology firms and start-ups could foster more innovation within the industry and be a decisive factor in the success of small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs). This is particularly true in light of the increasingly complex regulatory market environment through the new EU Medical Device Regulation, MDR, which came into effect almost a year ago. The three-year countdown until the application date of the MDR on May 26, 2020, is now running. Which advantages start-ups could bring in with

regard to this situation and what founders, investors as well as established medical technology companies can expect from the start-up pitches at the contest “MedTech Radar Live 2018” is highlighted in the 10th edition of the joint media service “MedTech Radar,” published by BVMed, Earlybird Venture Capital, High-Tech Gründerfonds (HTGF), and BIOCOM. The current MedTech Radar is available for download in German and English at www.bvmed.de/radar. More on the pitch day at: www.medinsight.de.

MedTech Exports 2016 from Germany

(Development in relation to the previous year)



Source: Federal Statistics Office, Spectaris

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Germany is the third biggest market for medical technologies in the world regarding production. The export rate of the German medtech market is at about 65 percent.