Monthly news from the German Medical Technology Association: BVMed, Reinhardtstrasse 29b, D-10117 Berlin
Editor: Manfred Beeres, Phone: +49 (0) 30 - 24 62 55 - 20, E-Mail: beeres@bvmed.de, www.bvmed.de

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Restructuring of DRGs: Impacts will be significant

Berlin. The head of the German DRG Institute for the Hospital Remuneration System (InEK), **Frank Heimig**, emphasized the uncertainties associated with the exclusion of nursing staff costs from the diagnosis related groups (DRGs). For the medtech sector, the separation of the costs of nursing care from the DRG case rates for hospitals could have negative consequences.

BVMed requests involvement in MDK report

Berlin. The industry should be more involved in the appraisal of inpatient services involving medical devices, which is carried out by the German Medical Review Board of the Statutory Health Insurances (MDS/MDK). This is the request of BVMed. A "structured dialogue between the medical service, users, and manufacturers" was needed, says a position statement issued by the association.

Marc-Pierre Möll to succeed Joachim Schmitt as BVMed CEO

Berlin. **Dr. Marc-Pierre Möll** (53) has taken over as managing director of BVMed. He succeeds **Joachim M. Schmitt** (67), who has handed over the management of the association after 34 years in office. Möll's thematic focus points will be the support of small and medium-sized companies in fulfilling the strict requirements of the European Medical Device Regulation (MDR) and digital transformation.

Expenditure on medical devices: Over 35 billion euros

Wiesbaden. Healthcare expenditure on medical devices in Germany was at around a total of 35.5 billion euros in 2017. Almost 19.6 billion euros were spent on medical technical aids and 14.9 billion euros on other medical requirements.

Joachim Becker new Ministry of Health head of department

Berlin. **Joachim Becker** has been head of the department 2 "Healthcare, Health Insurance" of the ministry since April 1, 2019. Earlier, he was already responsible for basic SHI issues as well as for the supply of medical technical aids.

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Government decides on implant registry

Berlin. The Federal Cabinet passed the draft law for the introduction of a German implant registry (EIRD). It is expected that hip and knee arthroplasties as well as breast implants will be the first types of implants to be registered from mid-2021.
The German Medtech Association BVMed, which represents the manufacturers of implants, supports a mandatory implant registry that will allow conclusions about the quality of the implants and the quality of the institutions carrying out implant surgery. "In case there are complications in connection with a particular device, the affected patients can be notified more quickly. Moreover, the registry will lead to clarity about the durability and quality of the devices as well as the quality of care in the hospitals, thus contributing to the further improvement of medical care with implants," said Federal Minister of Health **Jens Spahn** when presenting the law. "We are in agreement on the goal of further improving safety for patients and the quality of care," said new BVMed CEO **Dr. Marc-Pierre Möll**.
What matters to the medtech companies is that the registry will include not only the devices but also the surgeons and medical institutions in order to function as a proper "care registry." The revised draft law ensures that this goal will be reached. Another important concern for the manufacturers of implants is being able to access the raw data of the registry for special evaluations. This will be particularly helpful with regard to approval and recertification processes.
Read more at **www.medinsight.de**.

Accelerate medtech HTA – the first steps

Berlin. At the end of March 2019, the German Bundestag decided to simplify medtech trial schemes (article 137e and 137h, German Social Code Book V). The new stipulation is part of a larger healthcare act TSVG, named after its main subject "Clinic Appointment and Outpatient Care Act." The new statutory rules permit medtech companies to commission trial studies at their own expense – according to the appropriate principle "whoever orders, pays." All other trial schemes will be commissioned and financed by the Federal Joint Committee G-BA. The German medtech association BVMed sees these changes as a "first proper step towards accelerated health technology assessment (HTA)." The legislator is drawing the necessary consequences from the fact that the existing trial regulation did not work well in real life.
Read more on this topic at **www.medinsight.de**.

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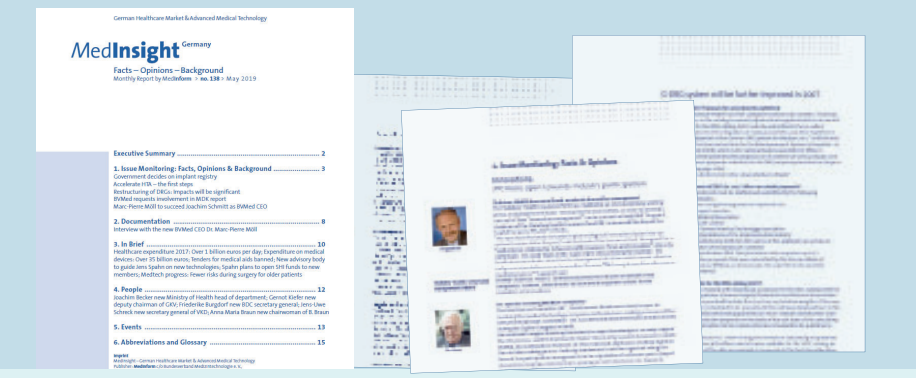
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MedInform has published a new issue of MedInsight Germany, a background report authored by the German medtech experts **Dr. Marc-Pierre Möll** and **Manfred Beeres** in cooperation with AdvaMed. MedInsight gives the latest news on Europe's biggest medtech market.
Topics of the new issue are e. g.: Healthcare expenditure 2017: Over 1 billion euros per day; Tenders for medical aids banned; New advisory body to guide Jens Spahn on new technologies; Spahn plans to open SHI funds to new members; Medtech progress: Fewer risks during surgery for older patients; Gernot Kiefer new deputy chairman of GKV; Friederike Burgdorf new BDC secretary general; Jens-Uwe Schreck new secretary general of VKD.
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