

BVMedReport № 06/13

June 2013
Circulation: 2,800

Minister Bahr in Favor of Private Health Insurances

Berlin. Before the upcoming federal elections in September 2013, Federal Minister of Health **Daniel Bahr** (FDP) clearly spoke in favor of maintaining the private health insurance (PKV). "Does it make sense to challenge a system which, in a period of demographic change, supports the build-up of old age provisions?", Bahr asked on the occasion of the 10th health law round table in Berlin.

Cardiology: Fewer Deaths Due to Heart Failure

Mannheim. The mortality rates of heart diseases are sinking, the German Society of Cardiology announced at the commencement of their annual congress. Between 2000 und 2010, the death rate from acute myocardial infarction declined by 15.8 percent for men and 18.4 percent for women in Germany. People are living longer, particularly because mortality from cardiovascular diseases is declining due to innovative medical technologies.

Healthcare Creates More Jobs

Berlin. The healthcare sector wants to create 55,000 new jobs in 2013, a survey conducted by the Association of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce among 800 healthcare companies finds. One company in five within the fields of pharmaceuticals and medical technology intends to hire additional employees.

University Hospitals Fight Allegations of Unnecessary Operations

Berlin. German university physicians are fighting back allegations that they carry out medically unnecessary operations. "Putting university hospitals under general suspicion of being motivated only by economic aspects of patient care is completely inappropriate. They are maximum medical care providers and, therefore, have to offer a broad range of services instead of being able to specialize in lucrative treatments," said **Michael Albrecht**, Chairman of the Association of German University Hospitals.

Follow us on Twitter:
www.twitter.com/bvmed
Daily Medtech News and Links

JFC Chairman: Faster Availability of Innovations

Berlin. The benefit analysis by the Joint Federal Committee (Gemeinsamer Bundesausschuss, JFC) is often too lengthy for medical technology procedures. The new trial evaluation regulation for novel examination and treatment methods with medical devices aims at "implementing medical technology innovations more rapidly in the field", JFC Chairman **Josef Hecken** said at a BVMed round table discussion on health politics in April 2013.

Currently, there were approximately 40 serious requests and three pending procedures from the JFC benefit analysis sub-committee. However, 2013 would not yet see the start of a trial procedure as the Europe-wide tender for the project

management was still being conducted, Hecken said. External applications had to be prioritized. What matters in the opinion of the JFC Chairman, is that the accelerated procedures are also placed on a firm legal footing.

BVMed Director General and Member of the Board, **Joachim M. Schmitt**, said it was absolutely right and important to talk about benefit analyses. However, a separate and differentiated approach had to be used for medtech procedures. In this context, the trial regulation was particularly relevant for companies aiming at wide-spread distribution in the outpatient sector. More information in the new MedInsight Germany issue: www.medinsight.de.

Minister Roesler: Don't Exaggerate Control Mania

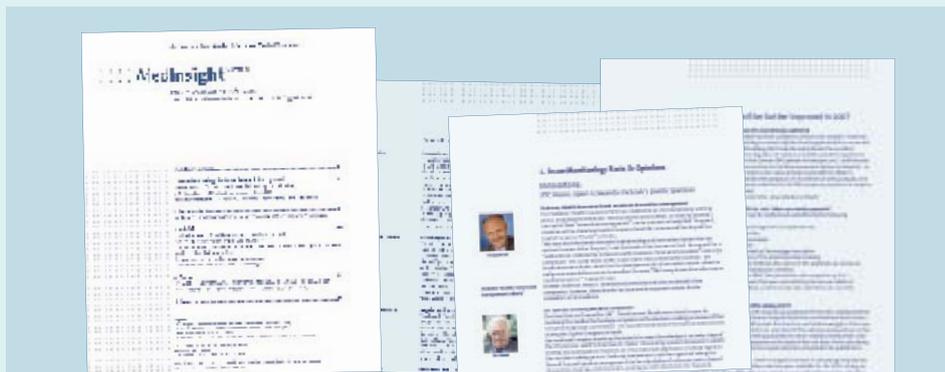
Berlin. Speaking at a conference by the Federation of German Industries (Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie, BDI) on the health economy, Minister for Economic Affairs **Philipp Roesler** (FDP) warned against too much red tape for medical device manufacturers.

Currently, some members of the European Parliament are planning to enact more rigorous criteria and procedures for approving medical devices.

The Central Federal Association of the Statutory Health Insurance Funds (SHI) even calls for a uniform EU authority to approve of medical devices in the highest risk class, such as artificial hips or pacemakers. Rösler warned that one should not "exaggerate the control mania".

More information in the new MedInsight Germany issue: www.medinsight.de.

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



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

Topics from the new issue are e.g.: JFC Chairman: Faster Availability of Innovations; Minister Bahr in Favor of Private Health Insurances; Rösler at the BDI: Don't Exaggerate Control Mania; Cardiology;

Fewer Deaths Due to Heart Failure; Healthcare Sector Creates More Jobs; University Hospitals Fight Allegations of Unnecessary Operations; EU Funding for Longer Durability of Endoprostheses.

AdvaMed, Eucomed and BVMed member companies can 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