

Statement on cost-benefit-evaluation

Berlin. In its statement on the concept of cost-benefit-evaluation published by the „Institut für Qualität und Wirtschaftlichkeit im Gesundheitswesen“ (Institute for quality and efficiency in health care, IQWiG) BVMed calls for the adequate involvement and preliminary consultation of the medical devices industry in the course of evaluation processes. The expert knowledge of the medical technology industry had to be considered already during the development of the cost-benefit-evaluation, because special features of medical devices had to be taken into account.

Ageing leads to more patients

Wiesbaden. The demographic change could lead to about 58 per cent more patients in need of nursing care and 12 per cent more treatments in hospitals in 2030 compared to today. This information can be gathered from model calculations of the Federal Statistical Office. These increases are caused by the rising number of older people against a total population decrease. Until 2030 the number of 60 year olds and older people will rise by around 38 per cent from 20.5 million to an estimated 28.4 million inhabitants and that of over 80 year olds by an estimated 73 per cent.

BVMed Annual Report 2007/08 published: “New alliances for quality and medical advances”

Berlin. BVMed advocates for new alliances for quality and medical advances in the healthcare market. „We need better cooperation between policymakers, health insurance funds, hospitals, physicians and industry in order to ensure high quality Medtech care for people and to see that innovations and medical progress reach the patients fast“, states BVMed in the new Annual Report 2007/08 which is published in English and German language. The Annual Report can be downloaded at www.bvmed.de (publications).

Dealing with medical technology advances is one of the most important formative issues in the healthcare market. It most especially concerns the medical technology companies as part of a dynamic and highly innovative industry. The researching companies in the Medtech sector invest an average of about nine percent of their sales revenues in research

and development.

The Annual Report points out that “for BVMed and medical technology companies, it remains a great challenge to convince decision makers with the help of studies and clear lines of arguments that innovations in the healthcare market should not only be debated with respect to cost aspects. We want to work towards having not only the usually higher initial costs of a new procedure considered in isolation, but rather to get the entire costs of a treatment case assessed and evaluated”. To do so, there is a strong need for an improved data basis on the use of medical technologies under “everyday conditions”. BVMed exerts itself on behalf of joint projects between companies in the Medtech sector and the health insurance funds and physicians in order to develop and stipulate criteria for a genuine quality competition.

Dr. Lugan (B. Braun) reelected as BVMed chairman

Berlin. **Dr. Meinrad Lugan** (44) has been reelected as BVMed chairman of the board at the Association’s annual general meeting in Berlin. He has headed BVMed since March 2007. Since eight years Dr. Lugan is a member of the board of B. Braun Melsungen AG.

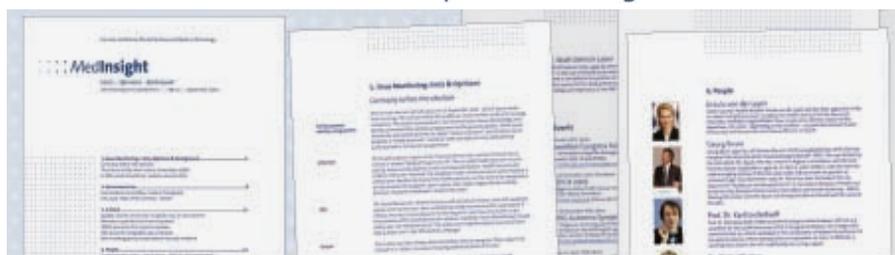
Stefan Widensohler (48), managing director of the KRAUTH group, and **Dr. Helmut Leuprecht** (66), chairman of the board of Lohmann & Rauscher Intern. GmbH & Co. KG, have been appointed

deputy chairmen by the BVMed board. Other elected BVMed board members are: **Dieter Buschmann** (Paul Hartmann AG), **Carsten Clausen** (Fresenius SE), **Dr. Manfred Elff** (SORIN Group), **Klaus Grunau** (Hollister Group), **Andreas Högrefe** (BSN medical GmbH), as well as **Dr. Harald F. Stock** (Johnson & Johnson/DePuy). BVMed director general **Joachim M. Schmitt** is also a member of the board. The new board has been elected for two years.

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Berlin. 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 **Sarah Smiley** from AdvaMed. MedInsight gives the latest news on Europe’s biggest medtech market.