“Assuring quality in healthcare: the German approach”

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German Hospital Federation (DKG)

- Representative organ of all German hospitals, no mandatory membership
- 28 member organisations (16 hospital federations on state level, 12 association on the federal level for each special type of ownership, e.g. different churches, universities, municipalities and counties, private for profit companies, pension funds, etc.)
- Partner of politics on national, European and international level (HOPE – European Hospital and Healthcare Federation, IHF – International Hospital Federation)
- Key player in the self-government-system of the German health care sector (e.g. in the Federal Joint Committee)
- Provision of services to member organisations
DKG – legal tasks

• Federal Joint Committee (GBA – Gemeinsamer Bundesausschuss): www.g-ba.de
• Institute for reimbursement in hospital (INEK – Institut für das Entgeltsystem im Krankenhaus): www.g-drg.de
• Institute for quality assurance and transparency in healthcare (IQTIG – Institut für Qualitätssicherung und Transparenz im Gesundheitswesen): www.iqtig.de
• German Organ Transplantation Foundation (DSO – Deutsche Stiftung Organtransplantation): www.dso.de
• Society for telematics applications (GEMATIK – Gesellschaft für Telematikanwendungen der Gesundheitskarte mbH): www.gematik.de
• National Contact Point for EU-Patients (NKS – Nationale Kontaktstelle für EU-Patienten): www.eu-patienten.de
DGK – cooperation/involvement

- German Hospital Institute (DKI – Deutsches Krankenhausinstitut): [www.dki.de](http://www.dki.de)
- Cooperation for Transparency and Quality in healthcare (KTQ – Kooperation für Transparenz und Qualität im Gesundheitswesen): [www.ktq.de](http://www.ktq.de)
- Association German Hospital Day (GDK – Gesellschaft Deutscher Krankenhaustag): [www.deutsche-krankenhaustag.de](http://www.deutsche-krankenhaustag.de)
- German Hospital TrustCentre and Informationprocessing (DKTIG – Deutsche Krankenhaus TrustCenter und Informationsverarbeitung GmbH): [www.dktig.de](http://www.dktig.de)
- German Hospital directory: [www.german-hospital-directory.de](http://www.german-hospital-directory.de)
- German Hospitals’ Publisher-association (DKVG – Deutsche Krankenhausverlagsgesellschaft mbH): [www.dkvg.de](http://www.dkvg.de)
- Publisher of the monthly journal „DAS KRANKENHAUS“: [http://www.daskrankenhaus-online.de](http://www.daskrankenhaus-online.de)
Key facts German hospital system

- 1.958 hospitals (three types of ownership: public, charity based, private for profit), almost 500.000 beds
- 1,2 million employees (850.000 full time equivalents) 185.000 doctors, 400.000 nurses
- 19 million inpatient services, 20 million ambulatory services
- Income of 97 billion Euro annually (DRG-based financing system for the costs of the treatment, paid for by statutory and private health insurance funds; grants by states for the costs of investment and contributions by patients)
- All German hospitals have to deliver their services under the same conditions (legal framework, quality standards, working conditions, reimbursement system, etc.)
- The patient has the free choice and access to all hospitals
Hospitals

On the same legal basis

Same quality standards

Reimbursement under the same conditions

Open to all patients

Same working conditions

Same admission standards
General overview about actions taken

- Minimum standards
- Minimum treatment numbers
- Minimum number of staff
- Data-based quality assurance
- Public Reporting
- Hygiene
- Benchmark
- Peer Review
- Quality management
- Certification
- Brain-death criteria/Organ transplantation
- IQTIG
- Innovation funds
- Hospital planning
- Pay for performance
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