

aegisnet news

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Expansion in Germany

We are pleased to announce that Medical Economics Outcomes Group MERG in Munich has joined our *aegisnet* Germany member Alpha Care GmbH. This provides an exciting addition to our capabilities that will enable us to extend our coverage both inside Germany and beyond.

Germany is facing a substantial regulatory reform in 2007 with further cost containment measures. The foundation of the German equivalent to NICE, the IQWiG, in 2005 has already caused dramatic changes in the requirements placed on the pharmaceutical industry, such as providing robust evidence to justify pharmaceutical prices.

aegisnet Germany will be able to access further clinical expertise in the haematology and oncology departments in German universities as well as continuing to benefit from the well-established working relationship with the Institute for Social Medicine, Epidemiology and Health Economics at the Charité University Medical Center, Berlin.

With more than twenty years experience in health economics and management of health care systems, the merged group is able to provide a specific specialised and comprehensive consulting service to clients.

Health care is a vital sector within the German economy (total spend approx. € 290 billion) and is a major provider of employment with a positive growth rate. However, the forthcoming reforms and existing developments in the organisation of the German health care system are causing uncertainty and anxiety among a broad range of players in the healthcare market, including pharmaceutical, biotech and medical device companies, and even health care providers.

Similar trends can be observed for Austria, Switzerland and in Eastern European countries. Because of Germany's proximity to and familiarity with these countries, *aegisnet* Germany, now including MERG, can bring their combined expertise to bear in these markets.

Alpha Care and MERG have both been key providers of consulting services to German and international pharmaceutical companies. Both cover a wide experience in strategic consultancy, health economics, health policy and observational studies at local, national and international level for customers in big pharmaceutical and biotech companies; public and private health institutions; patients' associations; public and private groups of health research and the food industry. Hence, *aegisnet* Germany is now even better placed to support clients to achieve solutions in market access and reimbursement.



Claude Le Pen awarded the Légion d'Honneur in Paris

Congratulations go to Professor Claude Le Pen, the Scientific Director of Aremis Consultants, *aegisnet* France, who was awarded the prestigious Légion d'Honneur in Paris in May of this year. The Légion d'Honneur is the top decoration in France and is awarded to an elite group of people in recognition of their outstanding contribution in their professional field. The Légion d'Honneur was created in 1802 by Napoleon and remains to this day France's premier award.

Claude Le Pen, who is also the President of the Supervisory Board of Aremis Consultants, is Professor of Economics at Paris-Dauphine University and former Dean of the Department of Applied Economics. Having specialised in Health Economics since 1985, he has written several books and authored and co-authored more than a hundred scientific papers. He is involved in a number of strategy and policy initiatives at national and international level.



Why not visit aegisnet?

The members of *aegisnet*, the International Network for Health Care Research, look forward to welcoming you to their exhibition stand throughout the ISPOR congress. Our exhibit stand can be found at: Booths 4 & 5, Radisson SAS Falconer Hotel & Conference Center, Copenhagen, Denmark.