



**ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS DES HÔPITAUX  
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF SENIOR HOSPITAL PHYSICIANS  
EUROPÄISCHE VEREINIGUNG DER LEITENDEN KRANKENHAUSÄRZTE  
EUROPESE VERENIGING VAN STAFARTSEN  
DEN EUROPÆISKE OVERLÆGEFORENING  
ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟΣ ΣΥΛΛΟΓΟΣ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΑΚΩΝ ΙΔΤΡΩΝ ΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΤΩΝ  
ASSOCIAZIONE EUROPEA DEI MEDICI OSPEDALIERI  
DEN EUROPEISKE OVERLEGEFORENING  
ASSOCIAÇÃO EUROPEIA DOS MÉDICOS HOSPITALARES  
ASOCIACIÓN EUROPEA DE MÉDICOS DE HOSPITALES  
EUROPEISKA ÖVERLÄKARFÖRENINGEN  
EVROPSKO ZDRŽENJE BOLNIŠNIČNIH ZDRAVINIKOV  
EUROPSKA ASOCIACIA NEMOCNICNÝCH LEKAROV  
EUROPSKA UDRUGA BOLNIČKIH LIJEČNIKA**

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NATIONAL REPORT 2006 – AUSTRIA

- New name of the Austrian association:

In connection with the legal adjustment of the statutes for new legal regulations the name of the Austrian association was changed:

German: “Verband der Leitenden Krankenhausärzte Österreichs” (VLKÖ)

French: “Association Autrichienne des Médecins des Hopitaux” (AAMH)

English: “Austrian Association of Senior Hospital Physicians” (AASHP)

The former name “Verband der Ärztlichen Direktoren und Primärärzte Österreichs” is still valid, but the new name should be preferred in the future.

- Actual numbers in the medical profession:

Total number of Medical Doctors (MDs): 35.924 (dentists included)

MDs in training: 6.414

General Practitioners: 11.958

Medical Specialists: 17.338

Retired MDs (practicing on a reduced scale): 1.572

- Austrian Medical Chamber (AMC) – federal physicians law:

Until last year all MDs including dentists were compulsory members of one common Medical Chamber. Since last year dentists are members of their own Dentists Chamber.

With the separation of the dentists the distribution of employed and self-employed MDs in the (former common) Medical Chamber has changed, hospital (employed) MDs representing the majority of two thirds.

- Senior Hospital Physicians:

A significant legal effect happened with the recent changes of the Austrian Federal Physicians Law (Österreichisches Ärztegesetz). The term “Senior Hospital Physician” (Leitender Krankenhausarzt) being laid down officially in the legal regulations.

- General Health Care:

As it has been mentioned in the Austrian National Report 2005 the Austrian General Health Care is laid down in constitutional laws on the federal and regional levels. The re-organisation of planning and administrative institutions has been started on the federal and regional levels. New measures of cost reduction for medicaments were taken. Some regulations are so strict that some pharmaceutical companies consider the withdrawal of their products from the (relatively small) Austrian market. Remarkably, Austria still collects a 20% VAT on medicaments.

With January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006, the Austrian Health Structure Plan was introduced, dividing Austria in 4 medical supply zones with a total of 32 regions providing complete optimal medical health care for the intra- und extramural areas including rehabilitation and nursing care aiming at the best health care for everybody.

Health platforms are active on the regional levels (federal districts). Only one representative of MDs (Medical Chamber) participates on a board with political and governmental deputies. Regional health funds separate strictly between extra- and intramural sectors. Counties/districts taking care of hospitals, health insurances of the extramural sector. Agreement is only possible within a “sector of co-operation”.

- Electronic Patient Card (E-Card):

The E-Card is now introduced generally in Austria in practice (extramural area), the E-Card is not yet used in hospitals.

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