



Letter from the shareholder

We can look back on yet another successful year. With a clear focus on the highest standards of medical quality, ongoing innovations and social responsibility, Asklepios has not only achieved economic success, but has also created value for all its stakeholders.

Most importantly, the last few months have seen Asklepios make excellent progress with its strategic transformation to become an integrated healthcare companion. We continue to invest in preventative and aftercare measures. Early detection and optimum treatment of disease are now and will remain our core activity. We also believe that helping people to remain healthy is an equally important responsibility.

Yet despite all the successes and positive developments, we must also address the major challenges facing the German healthcare system. We are also engaging very intensively with issues such as the nursing crisis and the shortage of qualified staff, cost pressure and inadequate hospital planning.

As a family-run company, Asklepios has pursued a policy of cohesion based on partnership for many years. We foster dialogue between our hospitals, between specialist disciplines and between the professional groups within a hospital. Skills are integrated in a logical manner, and cooperation between interdisciplinary teams is continuously honed, also across locations. This is the fundamental prerequisite for our success.



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A hospital can function only if everyone pulls together. This same also applies on a larger scale for the healthcare system itself. The fact that Asklepios is also willing to explore new approaches here is clearly reflected by our close alliance with Rhön founder Eugen Münch, which sees the coming together of two visionary companies and pioneers of healthcare, both of which have made important contributions in the past to opening up and modernising the German hospital landscape.

We also look forward to pressing ahead in the future with advanced medicine as well as innovative care models in Germany. As one of Germany's largest private hospital operators, Asklepios is already making an important contribution to addressing the challenges in healthcare. However, we could achieve substantially more were the underlying conditions to be improved. According to estimates by the German Hospital Federation, there are currently some 15,000 vacant positions throughout the hospital sector – and this gap will widen further in the coming years. With this in mind, Asklepios is creating new services and bolstering its training facilities for nursing staff. We are currently investigating ways to make the work more appealing. For instance, we are planning to provide our employees with subsidised accommodation due to the prohibitive costs of living in specific regions.

We are recruiting new nurses from around the world, teaching them German, investing in their seamless integration and supporting them in their battles with German bureaucracy. This is a laborious and sometimes difficult path – but we firmly believe that every additional nurse is a victory for our patients in Germany.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all employees of Asklepios for doing their very best for the health of our patients on a daily basis in a challenging environment. I am also particularly grateful to all the patients and partners who have placed their trust in Asklepios over the past year.

I very much look forward to our continued partnership and cohesion in 2020.

Dr Bernard große Broermann



During the 2019 financial year, we progressed on the implementation of systematic sustainability management and continuous reporting, and this annual report coincides with the publication of our second sustainability report. To boost transparency, we expanded our data management system and submitted our report for inspection by an auditor for the first time. Over the course of various projects and workshops, our employees and managers engaged with the issue of sustainability at Asklepios. Asklepios remains focussed on the action areas of patients, employees, society, environment and compliance. We hope you enjoy reading this annual report.