

## PRESS RELEASE

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May be reprinted – page 1 of 2

### **World Health Summit in Berlin: CompuGROUP calls for greater efficiency and security in the health system.**

***Koblenz/Berlin – 15 October 2009:*** As one of the world's leading e-health providers CompuGROUP Holding AG is very much committed to achieving innovation within the health system. The company's Decision Support Systems and electronic health records enhance diagnostics and patient treatment whilst also bringing about an increase in efficiency. This topic also formed the subject for today's address given to the World Health Summit in Berlin by CompuGROUP's Chief Medical Officer Prof. Dr. Stefan F. Winter.

The overarching objective of CompuGROUP is to increase efficiency in the health system without needing to resort to cost-cutting measures. In order to achieve this aim, CompuGROUP is pursuing the idea of cross-sectoral networking of all health system stakeholders and seeking to introduce an effective telematics infrastructure extending across the whole of the country. The company believes that this should be realised via a consortium under the lead management of the partner companies of service providers acting in conjunction with Gematik (electronic health card company for the application of telematics mbH).

CompuGROUP also takes the view that equal importance needs to be attached to making greater use of intelligent medical software in the form of so-called Medical Decision Support Systems (MDSS). Decision Support Systems provide doctors with relevant medical information on the basis of a patient's existing medical data. This information is made available electronically at the precise time and place required. Decision Support Systems deliver targeted and efficient assistance to those involved in patient treatment and support the highly responsible enhanced diagnostics and therapy work carried out every day by health professionals.

The main focus is on greater security of diagnosis and treatment. This acts as a vehicle for increasing the quality of care and has established itself the third main pillar of the healthcare system alongside medicines and medical products. Broader deployment of MDSS could drastically reduce the number of wrongly issued prescriptions. These amount to almost three million in Germany alone and cause in excess of one million unnecessary days spent in hospital

as well as resulting in over 15,000 deaths due to – avoidable – side effects triggered by medication.

In addressing this topic at the World Health Summit on 15 October, CompuGROUP Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Prof. Dr. Stefan F. Winter formulated the company's demands in the following manner. "We are in favour of an effective incentive system in the form of the nationwide introduction of totally confidential health records to be administered by doctors. This should be an optional benefit for the purpose of delivering higher quality of care rather than a compulsory scheme". The aim should be for statutory and private health insurance companies to be able to engage in fair competition and to cooperate with one another on the deployment of new technologies for the purpose of achieving greater efficiency in the health system. The German Association of Statutory Health Insurance Physicians should be freed from unnecessarily bureaucratic regulations and left to devote their full attention to their duty to provide safety and quality assurance. "Intelligent IT solutions in the care sector will have a crucial impact on the individual medicine practised in the 21st century and will also represent a completely new form of health policy: public health strategies on the basis of evidence", Winter continued.

The World Health Summit is the leading event of its kind for researchers, healthcare professionals, policymakers and stakeholders in the health system. It takes place annually and this year will be held in Berlin for the first time from 14 to 18 October 2009.

#### **About CompuGROUP Holding AG**

CompuGROUP is one of the leading e-health companies worldwide. Its software products, designed to support all medical and organisational activities in doctors' offices and hospitals, its information services for all parties involved in the healthcare system and its web-based personal health records contribute towards safer and more efficient healthcare. The services of CompuGROUP are based on its unique customer base of around 326,000 doctors, dentists, hospitals and networks as well as other service providers. CompuGROUP is the e-Health company with the biggest coverage among e-health service providers worldwide. The company operates in 14 European countries, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and in the USA and currently employs around 2,800 people.

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