University Hospital Vienna

Annual Report 2023

Vienna Healthcare Group
University Hospital Vienna

Für die Stadt Wien

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Prefaces


Photo: PID/David Bohmann

Vienna's healthcare system offers first-class services for all Viennese, regardless of their income, gender, age or origin. The City of Vienna is taking numerous measures to secure this for the future. This includes comprehensive training measures in the healthcare sector and initiatives to make healthcare professions even more attractive.

The University Hospital Vienna is a cornerstone of outstanding medical care. Together with the Medical University of Vienna, it stands for excellence like no other hospital in Austria. This is also reflected in its ultra-modern equipment. In 2023, a new surgical robot, a new PET-CT and an innovative tremor therapy device that combines magnetic resonance and ultrasound technology were put into operation.

With the establishment of the Comprehensive Center for Musculoskeletal Disorders, the Comprehensive Center for Inflammation and Immunity and the Comprehensive Center for Chest Diseases, the University Hospital Vienna also has three additional centers that promote interdisciplinary collaboration for the benefit of patients.

Regardless of the equipment and organizational structures, it is ultimately down to the professional and social skills of the staff that the Viennese — and many people beyond — can benefit from these top services at the University Hospital Vienna.

I would therefore like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the staff of the University Hospital Vienna and the Medical University of Vienna. Be it the doctors, nurses, allied health professionals, operational staff, administrative staff and many, many more — they all make an invaluable contribution to the Viennese healthcare system.

Peter Hacker
City Councillor for Social Affairs, Public Health and Sports


Photo: Vienna Healthcare Group/Felicitas Matern

The University Hospital Vienna is one of the best hospitals in the world. Together with the Medical University of Vienna, it combines patient care, research and teaching under one roof. To ensure that this successful path can continue, the City of Vienna and the federal government are jointly investing in the structural modernization of the University Hospital Vienna.

The modern infrastructure takes into account the aspects of sustainability and climate protection, and replaces the outdated building structures. All construction work will take place during ongoing operations, and patients will continue to receive the same high quality of care around the clock. In the modernization program, which will be implemented from 2016 to 2030, further important milestones were reached in 2023. Work on the Center for Translational Medicine was successfully driven forward, the main entrance to the University Hospital Vienna was redesigned by renovating the front yard, new premises were created for the primary care outpatient clinic in the immediate vicinity of the main entrance, an important construction phase in the renovation of the hospital pharmacy was completed and building 71 was renovated and occupied as an office building in January 2024.

Furthermore, the University Hospital Vienna maintained its excellent 30th place in the ranking of the world's best hospitals — carried out by the renowned magazine "Newsweek" — and even improved to 25th place in 2024. This special award confirms that the close cooperation between the University Hospital Vienna and the Medical University of Vienna, which was raised to a new level in 2016 through a cooperation agreement, is bearing fruit.

In addition, as part of the European University Hospital Alliance, an association of European university hospitals of which the University Hospital Vienna is a founding member, a scholarship program is being set up with the active involvement of the Hospital Nursing Directorate to train experienced intensive care nurses as "Critical Care Nurses" and establish a corresponding European network.

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize that the successes mentioned here and in this annual report would not be possible without the dedication and commitment of all employees at the University Hospital Vienna. Thank you for your tireless dedication to our patients and for your constant striving for innovative solutions.

Herwig Wetzlinger
Director of the Business Unit University Hospital Vienna

Short profile

The University Hospital Vienna is Austria's biggest hospital. With its 9,000 employees, it provides medical excellence. In 2023, around 46,000 surgeries were performed, including 117 lung and 40 heart transplants.

Since 2016, the University Hospital Vienna and the clinical areas of the Medical University of Vienna have been jointly managed by the two institutions. The Medical University of Vienna is one of the most important biomedical research institutions in Europe. In addition, with around 8,000 students, it is the largest medical training center in the German-speaking world.

An essential element of the University Hospital Vienna and the Medical University of Vienna is the combination of patient care, research and training. In 2023, 62,000 patients were hospitalized and the outpatient clinics were visited 1.8 million times. In the field of medical research, the University Hospital Vienna and the Medical University of Vienna have repeatedly achieved internationally recognized results. The research laboratories of the departments are state-of-the-art. They cover an area of 24,500 square meters.

A Student"s Center featuring the Lecture Center and the Study Center is provided for teaching amongst other facilities. The Lecture Center has a large lecture hall with 500 seats and four additional lecture halls as well as 33 team work and seminar rooms. The Study Center consists of an up-to-date collection of textbooks and the University Library. Furthermore, there is a Further Training and Special Training Academy for nursing and for allied health professions.

The history of the University Hospital Vienna reaches as far back as the 17th century. It was created on the basis of the Großarmen- und Invalidenhaus (home for the poor and disabled) that was founded by Emperor Leopold I in 1693 and built on the area delimited by Alser Strasse, Spitalgasse and Garnisongasse starting in 1694. Emperor Joseph II converted it to a hospital. It was opened to the public on 16 August 1784. The University Hospital Vienna at its current location, Währinger Gürtel 18—20, was inaugurated on 7 June 1994.


Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Thomas Mayer-Egerer

The University Hospital Vienna premises house an entrance building, a main building, the South Garden Departments as well as several attached buildings on 240,000 square meters. The main building consists of an 11-storey flat building and, on top of it, two 14-storey ward blocks — the green ward block and the red ward block. The green ward block accommodates mainly the surgical departments, while the red ward block mainly houses the departments of internal medicine. Altogether, the hospital provides 1,706 systemized beds.


Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Thomas Mayer-Egerer

Modernizations

The University Hospital Vienna is in a phase of structural modernization, and the corresponding work was continued with great vigour in 2023. For example, great progress has been made in expanding the research space available on the grounds of the University Hospital Vienna. Civil engineering work for the Center for Translational Medicine was started and completed in the reporting year. Around 30,000 cubic meters of earth was moved during the excavation of the construction pit, which, together with the surrounding area, is secured by a total of 350 bored and deep piles. Around 4,000 cubic meters of concrete and 500 tons of reinforcing steel were used for the floor slab, which forms the basis for the approximately 14,000 square meters of usable space for research, teaching and congresses. In order to keep the CO_2 footprint as low as possible, attention was paid to the selection of certified building materials such as eco-concrete, in the production of which recycled concrete (concrete rubble) is used as an aggregate. After completion of the civil engineering work, the building construction phase began and is already well advanced.

The groundbreaking ceremony for the Eric Kandel Institute — Center for Precision Medicine was held in 2023. At the joint site of the University Hospital Vienna and the Medical University of Vienna, modern conditions for precision medicine are created on more than 6,000 square meters. The building should be completed by the end of June 2026. A total of around 200 researchers at the Eric Kandel Institute — Center for Precision Medicine will have the ideal infrastructure to develop prevention, diagnosis and treatment methods tailored to individual patients. Personalized measures can be used for numerous health problems, such as cardiovascular diseases, mental illnesses, cancer, metabolic, respiratory or infectious diseases.

Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Thomas Mayer-Egerer

Photo: Medical University of Vienna/APA/Hörmandinger

From the left: Markus Müller, Rector of the Medical University of Vienna, Mayor Michael Ludwig, Science Minister Martin Polaschek and Herwig Wetzlinger, Director of the University Hospital Vienna, at the ground-breaking ceremony for the Eric Kandel Institute.

Building 71 was renovated and now houses offices for employees of the General Directorate of the Vienna Healthcare Group and the University Hospital Vienna as a "Barcode".

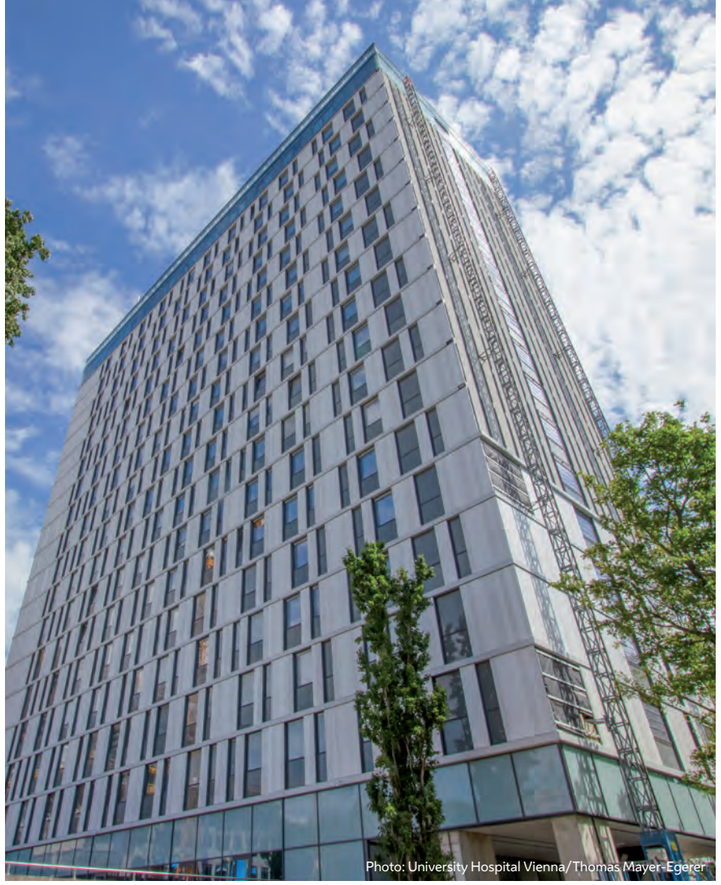


Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Thomas Mayer-Egerer

Photo: University of Vienna/APA/Hörmandinger

The "Corona Monument of Hope" now adorns the forecourt of the University Hospital Vienna.

In 2023, the renovation of the underground parking garage ceiling and the surface work in the area of the university hospital's front yard were also completed. In addition, the "Corona Monument of Hope" was installed there — at the main entrance to the University Hospital Vienna. It symbolizes solidarity and hope and stands for a place to come together and exchange opinions and ideas. The ensemble of objects comprises a wooden sculpture five and a half meters high and around two by two meters wide, with a ceramic object positioned in the middle. Commissioned by Martin and Gerda Essl and designed by the artist couple Emmerich Weissenberger and Nora Ruzsics, the "Corona Monument of Hope" was donated to the Medical University of Vienna as a sign of gratitude for the extraordinary achievements in medical care and research during the pandemic and beyond.

One strategic goal of the modernization programme up to 2030 is to concentrate clinical areas in the main hospital building. To this end, service rooms and offices are to be relocated to surrounding buildings. With the decision to repurpose a building that used to serve as an employee residence — including the installation of a large-scale photovoltaic system — the focus here was also on climate protection and sustainability. The renovation of the building 71 and its conversion into an office building was completed


Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Architects Collective

As part of the modernization, alternative accommodation for three wards and a day-care clinic will be created.

in 2023. It was occupied at the beginning of 2024. It now offers 13,500 square meters of space for offices and meeting rooms on 19 floors. In addition to the University Hospital Vienna, the General Directorate of the Vienna Healthcare Group also uses the new premises.

The wards at the University Hospital Vienna are to be modernized level by level — initially in the red ward block. To make this possible, three wards and a day-care clinic will be relocated to alternative premises right next to the main building.

Work on this alternative location began in 2023 and is already well advanced. The new building, which is predominantly a modular timber construction and connected to the main building, will meet all structural and building physics requirements for permanently approved buildings. It will comprise 88 beds for single and double rooms and 54 treatment places on around 4,000 square meters of floor space. A day-care clinic is housed on the first floor. The modular timber construction and the timber façade contribute to the circular economy and support the City of Vienna's goals in terms of sustainability and a reduced CO_2 footprint.

The Hospital Pharmacy at the University Hospital Vienna produces medicines that are not available industrially. Some basic materials and liquids such as acids, alkalis and alcohols are highly flammable. These substances are stored and kept under special conditions in the so-called fire cellar, the pharmacy's hazardous materials storage area. As part of the modernization of the pharmacy, the pharmacy's fire cellar was extensively rebuilt and enlarged. As part of the conversion of the fire cellar, the previous location was completely gutted and equipped with new functions, such as a separate loading dock for the delivery of hazardous materials, an explosion-proof hazardous materials elevator and a goods receiving area, as well as a social room, showers and wardrobes for employees. In order to ensure the supply order in the future, storage and production capacities were increased. The storage tanks were enlarged to two tanks with 3,000 liters each. In total, the newly adapted fire cellar accommodates four times the storage volume.

A central project of the structural modernization of the University Hospital Vienna is the Parent-Child Center. With the realization of this project, a modern, future-oriented model of integrated care for children and adolescents will be implemented. Under the motto "all areas of pediatric medicine under one roof", the Parent-Child Center will unite central areas from obstetrics to surgical procedures for children and adolescents in one operational unit. In 2023, the collector connections for telecommunications and energy supply were created. Important preparatory work for this central project has thus been completed.

The Primary Care Outpatient Clinic is an established and proven facility at many hospitals of the Vienna Healthcare Group, which is operated by the City of Vienna together with the Vienna Medical Radio Service. General practitioners examine and treat acute complaints or, depending on urgency and necessity, refer patients to the general practice area or to a hospital outpatient clinic. The Primary Care Outpatient Clinic at the University Hospital Vienna was given new, centrally located premises in the entrance building. In addition to the registration desk and the waiting areas, the examination and treatment rooms have been completely refurbished in a bright and friendly 350 square meters space. Patients are guided from the main entrance of the University Hospital Vienna to the Primary Care Outpatient Clinic by means of a new signage and lighting concept.

Speaking of signage: The University Hospital Vienna is also working intensively on a new guidance and orientation system. This applies to both indoor and outdoor areas. There has already been a practical test for both areas, which has been successful. The aim is to develop an intuitive and easy-to-understand guidance and orientation system.

Photo: City of Vienna/David Bohmann

From the left: Hospital Director Herwig Wetzlinger, City Councillor for Health Peter Hacker and Yvetta Zakarian, Head of the Vienna Medical Radio Service, at the opening of the new premises of the Primary Care Outpatient Clinic.


Photo: Medical University of Vienna/Felicitas Matern

Oswald Wagner
Vice-Rector for Clinical Affairs
at the Medical University of Vienna
and member of the Management Board

In 2023, we were able to return to regular operations at the University Hospital Vienna after the coronavirus-related restrictions. However, the shortage of nursing staff that emerged after the coronavirus crisis in 2022 has unfortunately worsened, meaning that we are experiencing significant capacity restrictions in some areas.

Fortunately, the Medical University of Vienna and the University Hospital Vienna achieve top positions in university and hospital rankings every year. To further improve working conditions and opportunities in basic, translational and clinical research and patient care, we are continuing to invest in both the renovation of the University Hospital Vienna, with the renovation of the inpatient area due to begin soon, and in the structural research infrastructure, with visible progress on the construction of the surgical research building (the extension of the Anna Spiegel research building) and the Center for Translational Medicine and the Center for Precision Medicine.

At the University Hospital Vienna, the federal government and the City of Vienna will thus jointly create the structural conditions for bridging the gap between basic research and clinical application on more than 14,000 square meters by 2026. In collaboration with the preclinical centers and the clinical organizational units, these two centers will focus on translating findings from experimental research into clinical application and on answering clinical questions in the laboratory in order to contribute to improving the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases.

Another project on the site is the Ignaz Semmelweis Institute for Infection Medicine, an inter-university research institute with the participation of all medical universities in Austria.

In accordance with the objectives of the agreement between the federal government and the City of Vienna, four further centers, namely a Comprehensive Center for Chest Diseases, a Comprehensive Center for Inflammation and Immunity, a Comprehensive Center for Musculoskeletal Disorders and a Comprehensive Center for Integrated Diagnostics, the latter at the beginning of 2024, were established as separate organizational units at the University Hospital Vienna.

I would like to thank all employees who, through their responsible and demanding work, have made a significant contribution to academic medicine at the University Hospital Vienna in order to ensure healthcare for the Viennese population and beyond.

Medical innovations and new high-tech devices

Offering patients the best possible care requires specialist expertise and state-of-the-art equipment. There were remarkable developments in both areas at the University Hospital Vienna in 2023, from new combination therapies for cancer patients, additional treatment options for epilepsy and cardiovascular patients to a new device for treating tremor, a new PET-CT and a new surgical robot.

SOLUTIONS FOR CARDIOVASCULAR PATIENTS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN AUSTRIA

Aortic aneurysms can occur in various sections of the main artery that transports blood from the heart to all other organs. While some aneurysms cause no symptoms, larger bulges can cause serious complications such as rupture or thrombosis. A new type of aortic prosthesis was implanted for the first time in Austria at the University Hospital Vienna. This makes the procedure quicker and easier to perform. The new treatment option now also enables patients with a complex aortic aneurysm to undergo gentle endovascular treatment. Also for the first time in Austria, a surgical heart ear closure was performed at the University Hospital Vienna. In atrial fibrillation, blood clots most frequently form in the small protrusion in the left atrium of the heart, which can lead to a stroke. In the new minimally invasive procedure, the left auricle is completely closed endoscopically using a clip. Surgical closure is particularly effective in stroke prevention and reduces the risk of stroke in patients with atrial fibrillation by up to 95 percent. The intake of blood-thinning medication can also be significantly reduced or even stopped altogether after the procedure.

Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Thomas Mayer-Egerer

Robotic surgery continues to improve. Since 2023, the University Hospital Vienna has had a second surgical robot system.

SURGICAL ROBOTS OF THE LATEST GENERATION

The use of a surgical robot offers various advantages for surgeons. The many degrees of freedom of the robotic arms and the often better view of the operating field make it possible to perform even complex resections and reconstructions in a minimally invasive manner — with optimized results, such as a lower complication rate. For this reason, the University Hospital Vienna now has a second surgical robot system. The new surgical robot is a system of the latest generation and offers even more flexibility for surgeons. For this purpose, an operating table was installed that can perform position changes synchronously with the robot, which further increases patient safety.

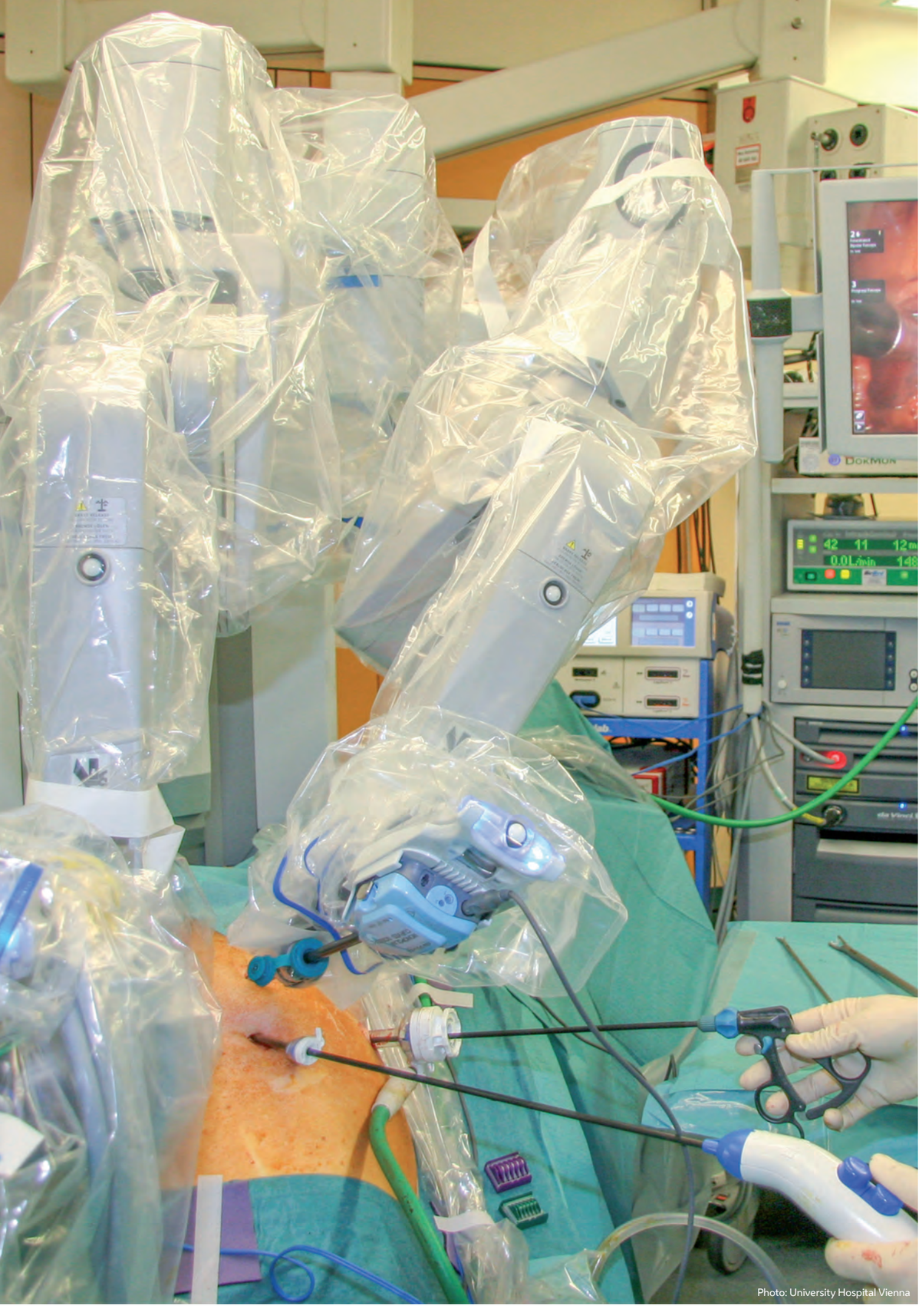


Photo: University Hospital Vienna

Photo: University Hospital Vienna

New technology enables tissue diagnosis within minutes.

EVEN FASTER INTRA-OPERATIVE TISSUE ANALYSIS WITH AI

Since 2023, the Department of Neurosurgery has been using a new, laser-based imaging technique that enables significantly faster tissue diagnosis during tumour surgery. With "Stimulated Raman Histology", a digital tissue section can be created directly in the operating room, which can be accessed and analysed in just a few minutes. A process that would take considerably longer without the new technology with AI functionality. To compare: On an international average, the transportation of the tissue to neuropathology, the manual preparation of the tissue section and its analysis takes around 30 minutes.

FIRST ROBOT-ASSISTED KIDNEY TRANSPLANTATION IN AUSTRIA

Since 2023, kidney transplants have been successfully performed at the Division of Transplantation with the support of the "DaVinci" surgical robot. The technique, used for the first time in Austria, offers organ recipients significantly lower complication rates, significantly less pain and shorter hospital stays thanks to the minimally invasive procedure. The organ function achieved is just as good as with the classic technique using an abdominal incision. Only a few centers in Europe currently offer this technically complex type of surgery.

NEW COMBINATION THERAPIES FOR CANCER PATIENTS

A study in which the Medical University of Vienna and the University Hospital Vienna played a leading role has shown that the prognosis of patients with metastatic colorectal cancer can be significantly improved. The new standard provides for a combination of the active substances Trifluridine/Tipiracil with Bevacizumab, an antibody against the formation of new blood vessels. This antibody is also effective in other therapeutic combinations for colorectal cancer and almost doubles the effectiveness of Trifluridine/Tipiracil treatment. By combining targeted therapy with chemotherapy, the prognosis of patients was significantly improved.

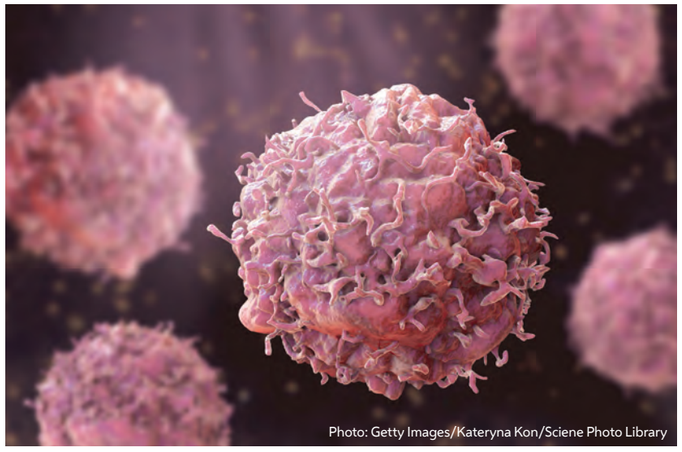


Photo: Getty Images/Kateryna Kon/Sciene Photo Library

A further study involving the Medical University of Vienna and the University Hospital Vienna has shown that in the treatment of chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL), a time-limited and targeted therapy with the drugs Venetoclax and Obinutuzumab leads to convincing results and is more effective than chemoimmunotherapy in patients without concomitant diseases. The findings have the potential to revolutionize the standard of care for CLL patients and offer them a better quality of life.

A third study could give hope to patients with medulloblastoma. It shows a sustained survival benefit of so-called anti-angiogenic therapy in the event of a recurrence of medulloblastoma — the most common malignant brain tumour in children and adolescents. This form of therapy starves the cancer by intervening primarily in the cancer environment. Until now, no curative treatment option was available for these patients. The therapy is reinforced by chemotherapeutic agents that are injected directly into the cerebrospinal fluid. The study was conducted under the direction of the Medical University of Vienna and the University Hospital Vienna.

FIRST SUCCESSFUL LUNG TRANSPLANTATION IN KIEV WITH THE HELP OF THE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL VIENNA AND THE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA

Many years ago, the Vienna Lung Transplant Program of the Department for Thoracic Surgery began offering structured training for colleagues from neighbouring countries with the aim of ensuring that they are able to start independent lung transplant programs. In 2021, a team from Kiev University Hospital took part in the structured training course, which lasted several months. The outbreak of war in Ukraine prevented the start of an own transplant program. However, contact was maintained between the university hospitals in Vienna and Kiev, and the team in Kiev managed to set up a waiting list for lung transplants. After meticulous preparation, the first successful lung transplant was performed in Kiev on March 21, 2023.

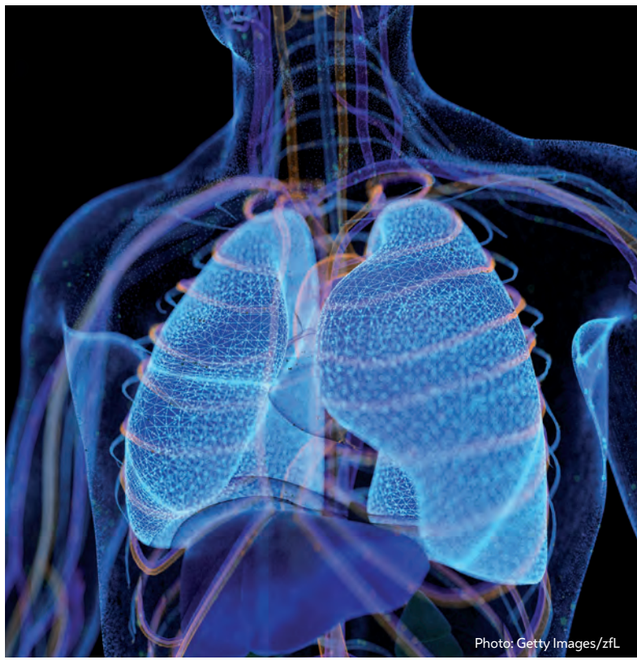


Photo: Getty Images/zfL

MODERN LINEAR ACCELERATOR

In 2023, a linear accelerator at the University Hospital Vienna was replaced with a latest-generation model with comprehensive equipment for image-guided radiotherapy. In this model, the collimator elements are narrower and can be moved at greater speed. This enables more effective and, at the same time, gentler treatment. This high-precision radiotherapy is additionally supported by a new robotic treatment table, modern, X-ray-based imaging options and a surface scanner. In high-precision radiotherapy, treatment volumes can be kept small and the proportion of healthy tissue that has to be irradiated can be minimized.

REVOLUTIONARY TREATMENT OF MOVEMENT DISORDERS USING ULTRASOUND

The treatment of movement disorders, such as tremor, is now possible at the University Hospital Vienna without opening the brain and without general anaesthesia. The tissue treatment is controlled by magnetic resonance imaging in a new high-tech device using highly intensive, focused ultrasound. With so-called transcranial, MR-guided, focused ultrasound therapy, patients suffering from essential tremor (shaking that cannot be controlled with medication) can be treated "bloodlessly". The procedure combines two technologies — which are integrated into one device in the Division of Neuroradiology and Musculoskeletal Radiology: Magnetic resonance imaging (magnetic field strength of 3 Tesla) is used to obtain high-resolution neuroradiological images of the area in the brain responsible for the movement disorder. This small area of the brain is heated and thus destroyed using focused ultrasound under the supervision of highly specialized neurosurgeons. Patients are mechanically immobilized for the intervention using a head ring and are awake during the entire — painless — treatment. This allows the treatment effect to be continuously monitored by neurological experts. Patients who are eligible for treatment are identified as part of a thorough neurological assessment at the Department of Neurology.

Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Karin Fehringer

A new device for transcranial, MR-guided, focused ultrasound therapy combines magnetic resonance imaging and focused ultrasound in one system.

ULTRA-FAST PET-CT

Positron emission computed tomography (PET-CT) is currently the most modern and precise method of tumour diagnostics. It can be used to determine the exact size, position, tumour activity and spread of possible cancer. It combines the advantages of two different medical technologies, PET and CT, in one device. The new PET-CT device that has been put into operation at the University Hospital Vienna also has additional advantages. Firstly, due to the tube length of 1.06 meters, it is possible to take simultaneous images of the entire trunk of the body. Secondly, the new model works particularly quickly, reducing the recording time to less than five minutes. This saves time for patients. However, it also means that many more patients can be examined with the device than was previously possible, which reduces waiting times for an appointment. And thirdly, the radiation exposure for patients can be massively reduced, so that this device is also increasingly being used for screening or in disease prevention.

Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Thomas Mayer-Egerer

The University Hospital Vienna has a new PET-CT.

NEW THERAPY FOR EPILEPSY PATIENTS

For the first time in Austria, an innovative brain pacemaker for the treatment of focal epilepsies was successfully implanted at the University Hospital Vienna. The novel treatment procedure represents a promising option for epilepsy patients who continue to suffer from seizures despite optimal medication therapy. The "Epicranial Application of Stimulation Electrodes for Epilepsy" (EASEE) took place at the Department for Neurosurgery. The EASEE system is based on an innovative method of individualized brain stimulation. When implanting the system, fine electrodes are placed precisely over the epileptic origin in the brain without having to open the skull bone or touch the brain tissue. Stimulation therapy aims to stabilize over-active brain function in epilepsy and to interrupt potentially occurring seizures.

AUTOMATED BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSES

The microbiological examination of samples is a central element in clinical operations. A growing number of the cultural examinations carried out daily at the University Hospital Vienna can now be performed automatically. The new laboratory system handles sample processing, inoculation of solid and liquid nutrient media and slides, incubation, digital reading of the plates and transportation of the plates between workstations and incubators. This means that relevant information can be made available to the treating physicians even more quickly. The standardization of sample processing also results in consistently high-quality findings. And the complete digital documentation of all processing steps optimizes quality assurance.

Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Thomas Mayer-Egerer

Microbiological tests can now be carried out even faster.

Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Thomas Mayer-Egerer

Further highlights

The University Hospital Vienna also aims to maintain or even improve its high performance standards in the area of operational organization through ongoing optimization. In 2023, three new interdisciplinary centers were founded: the Comprehensive Center for Musculoskeletal Disorders, the Comprehensive Center for Inflammation and Immunity and the Comprehensive Center for Chest Diseases. There were also important future initiatives in the areas of outpatient appointment management, recruiting and climate protection. And Irene Ausserlechner was appointed as the new Nursing Director.

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL VIENNA ONCE AGAIN AMONG THE WORLD'S BEST HOSPITALS

In 2023, the University Hospital Vienna came 30th in the ranking of the world's 250 best hospitals compiled by US news magazine Newsweek, confirming its successful placings in previous years. In addition to "first-class care, first-class research and first-class innovation", Newsweek defines "consistency" as a hallmark of the ranked clinics: "The best hospitals in the world consistently attract the best staff and offer the best patient outcomes and the most important new therapies and research findings. Of all the hospitals in the world, only a relatively few can do all of these things year after year," says the foreword to the ranking. More than 2,300 clinics in 28 countries were evaluated for the ranking. In 2024, the University Hospital Vienna even improved to 25th place.

PSYCHOEDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR YOUNG PATIENTS

An organ transplant can enable people with chronic illnesses to live on and give them new hope, but at the same time it is accompanied by fears and worries for the patients concerned and their families. This is all the more true if the patients are children. The "TransplanTiere" project was initiated at the University Hospital Vienna in order to ease children's fears a little. Child-friendly illustrative material helps parents to prepare young patients for what to expect before and after the transplant. A book was designed for each of the kidney, liver, heart and lung organs, which is presented to the children together with a corresponding stuffed animal.

Another psychoeducational program, which was launched at the University Hospital Vienna in 2023, is entitled "Education


Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Thomas Mayer-Egerer

Project "TransplanTiere": Initiator Marion Floquet, Hospital Director Herwig Wetzlinger and Medical Director Gabriela Kornek (from the left).


Photo: University Hospital Vienna

The "Education & Care in RARE" program was developed by Julia Vodopiutz (far left) and a cross-professional team.

& Care in RARE". The program, including the the comic-based training materials, supports children and young people with rare diseases in coping better with their illness in everyday life. In addition to promoting the health literacy of the patients concerned, a further aim is to establish a quality-assured transfer of information and expertise from the multidisciplinary treatment team to the child. This provides the treatment team with a tool to communicate rare diseases in a more understandable and comprehensible way.

NEW INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTERS

With the Comprehensive Center for Musculoskeletal Disorders, the Comprehensive Center for Inflammation and Immunity and the Comprehensive Center for Chest Diseases, three new interdisciplinary centers were established at the University Hospital Vienna in 2023.

The Comprehensive Center for Musculoskeletal Disorders (CCMSD) deals with musculoskeletal disorders, the prevalence of which is increasing due to demographic developments as well as the further development of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures. The CCMSD focuses on bringing together expertise in cutting-edge clinical medicine by aligning and harmonizing treatment pathways and guidelines in order to avoid duplication and reduce complexity for patients.

The Comprehensive Center for Inflammation and Immunity (CCII) is dedicated to patients with immune-mediated inflammatory diseases and immunodeficiencies. The CCII aims to promote cooperation between all facilities and professional groups at the University Hospital Vienna and the Medical University of Vienna that are involved in the care of this patient group. Measures for prevention, diagnostics, management, therapy, prophylaxis and knowledge transfer are intended to ensure excellent state-of-the-art care for those affected at the University Hospital Vienna.

The Comprehensive Center for Chest Diseases (CCCD) focuses on pooling and further expanding expert knowledge on lung and thoracic diseases. As part of the center, interdisciplinary boards and other interactive structures will be established in order to increase the networking of experts in lung and thoracic diseases and to further develop patient treatment, research, teaching and training in this area as an international center of excellence. For example, lung cancer is one of the most common malignant tumours and causes of cancer deaths in Austria. Studies show that a delay from diagnosis to the start of treatment is associated with increased mortality. Close interdisciplinary cooperation and optimal diagnostic and treatment processes are essential to minimize this time span.

IRENE AUSSERLECHNER APPOINTED AS NURSING DIRECTOR

With Irene Ausserlechner, the University Hospital Vienna has a new Nursing Director who brings a wealth of nursing management experience with her. Before taking up her post at the University Hospital Vienna, she was deputy and interim Nursing Director at Villach Regional Hospital and then Nursing Director at Rosenhügel Neurological Rehabilitation Center. In her previous management functions, quality management, risk management and process optimization — always in line with the latest scientific findings — were key elements for her. "It is important to me to never forget that it is about people — be it the patients or the employees, who want to be seen as a whole." At the Villach State Hospital, Irene Ausserlechner also worked as ward manager and nursing department manager in various areas, including the stroke unit and the palliative care ward. "In this setting, you become even more aware of how important it is for managers and employees to work together to create an environment that expresses mutual appreciation for everyone involved."

Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Thomas Mayer-Egerer

Irene Ausserlechner is the new Nursing Director.

Photo: Getty Images/Knape

PROGRESS IN CLIMATE PROTECTION

The University Hospital Vienna has already institutionalized an Environmental Management Team in 2021. Since then, significant progress has been made in climate protection. The use of nitrous oxide has been avoided since 2023. This anaesthetic gas has considerable potential to have a greenhouse effect and, with a few exceptions, its use no longer corresponds to current scientific knowledge due to advances in medicine. This measure will save around 1,000 tons of CO_2 equivalents per year. The implementation of general narcotic gas recycling is also being driven forward so that around 140 tons of CO_2 equivalents can also be saved here from 2025. In addition, it was decided that the aisle lights would gradually be replaced with more energy-efficient lights. This will save 700 tons of CO_2 equivalents per year in the future. To ensure that climate protection targets are pursued sustainably and continuously, the University Hospital Vienna has drawn up and adopted a roadmap to climate neutrality. As one of the first measures, a corresponding environmental management system will be set up from 2024.

IN-SERVICE TRAINING

In order to meet the increasing demand for specialists in X-ray assistance and laboratory assistance, the University Hospital Vienna designed and established a tailor-made in-house training program in cooperation with a private trainer. This includes both the theoretical and the practical part. The advantage of part-time training and consequently the early acceptance of suitable applicants is that the new employees can get to know the University Hospital Vienna and familiarize themselves with the processes before the training begins.

Photo: University Hospital Vienna

Medical Director Gabriela Kornek (middle) and Wolfgang Kirchknopf, Head of the Allied Health Professionals (right), welcome participants to the in-service training course.

LEADING AND INNOVATIVE

The Vienna Healthcare Group has defined three values that describe particularly well what the association stands for. These are: "Reliably accompanying people", "When things get really serious, we're there" and "Doing the right thing with courage". In addition, the clinics of the Vienna Healthcare Group were asked to define their own values. The University Hospital Vienna developed the brand value "Leading and innovative" with the involvement of numerous employees. A road show was held at the University Hospital Vienna to disseminate these values. T-shirts were also produced and presented to the employees.


Photo: B. Plank – imBILDE.at

Hong Qin (middle) and Sonja Schneeweiss (2nd from right) accept the Advanced Nursing Practice Award.

AUTOMATIC APPOINTMENT REMINDERS FOR PATIENTS

For outpatient appointments, the appointment confirmation and appointment reminder can now be sent automatically by text message. This new function can also be used to transmit postponed appointments. This new appointment service helps patients to keep their appointments. In addition, the administrative work involved in making appointments is reduced for employees and the costs of sending appointment confirmations by post are eliminated.

NURSING OUTPATIENT CLINIC SUPPORTS HEART PATIENTS

In order to prevent a recurrence of a life-threatening cardiac event, secondary prevention measures, such as health-promoting behaviour immediately after interventional treatment, are particularly important. In everyday clinical practice, it is usually not possible to provide patients with comprehensive advice about secondary prevention measures during their inpatient hospital stay. This gap is now being filled by a dedicated Cardiology Nursing Outpatient Clinic at the Division of Cardiology at the University Hospital Vienna and the Medical University of Vienna. The special outpatient clinic offers patients and their caregivers personal consultations and health information before and after discharge. The establishment of the Cardiology Nursing Outpatient Clinic was presented at the Advanced Nursing Practice Congress 2023 and the project was awarded second place in the Advanced Nursing Practice Award Austria.

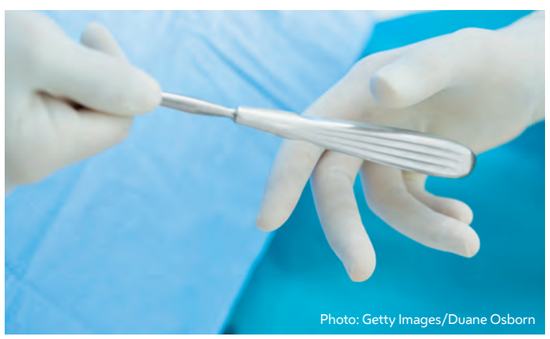


Photo: Getty Images/Duane Osborn

SURGICAL ASSISTANTS IN ACTION

The new occupational group of surgical assistants in the operation room is on an equal footing with qualified nursing staff with additional training in operation room nursing. They assist the surgeons and are responsible for the entire perioperative process as well as for the clinic's own instrument reprocessing unit. In Austria, it has been possible to train as a surgical assistant since 2023. The training lasts three years and the first graduates will start work in 2026. This training has been available in Germany and Switzerland for some time. This means that two employees are already working as surgical assistants at the University Hospital Vienna. They work at the Department for Neurosurgery and were quickly integrated into the existing team. All those involved are highly satisfied with the joint interdisciplinary cooperation.


Photo: Wiener Gesundheitsverbund/Votava

EUROPEAN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR INTENSIVE CARE

Not least the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted how important it is to have highly qualified intensive care nurses who are also networked at European level in order to be able to exchange experiences quickly. The University Hospital Vienna has launched an initiative together with partner hospitals to establish such a network. As part of the European University Hospital Alliance — an association of ten leading university hospitals across Europe, of which the University Hospital Vienna is a founding member — the scholarship program "European Critical Care Nursing Fellowship Program" (EUCARE) was launched. The aim is to train experienced intensive care nurses to become "critical care nurses" and thus be able to fall back on well-networked intensive care nurses operating at the same level in the event of a crisis. The project is currently setting up the structural framework (curriculum development, planning of theoretical and practical training) and should be completed after three years with successful implementation.

COOPERATION WITH NURSING HOMES

For patients who cannot be seamlessly transferred to external short-term care or nursing facilities or mobile nursing care after a hospital stay, the University Hospital Vienna has entered into a cooperation with nursing homes of the Vienna Healthcare Group. The first step was taken in 2019 at "Pflege Baumgarten", where a hospital ward for remobilization and after-care was established for the University Hospital Vienna, which is organizationally assigned to the Department of Physical Medicine, Rehabilitation and Occupational Medicine. In January 2023, a further ward was then established at "Pflege Leopoldstadt", which is dedicated to patients of the University Hospital Vienna — primarily patients of the Departments of Medicine I, II and III — under the term "transitional care". The model has been so successful that it has now been extended to several other clinics in the Vienna Healthcare Group.


Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Thomas Mayer-Egerer

In the framework of the European University Hospital Alliance, the EUCARE scholarship program was launched.

Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Thomas Mayer-Egerer

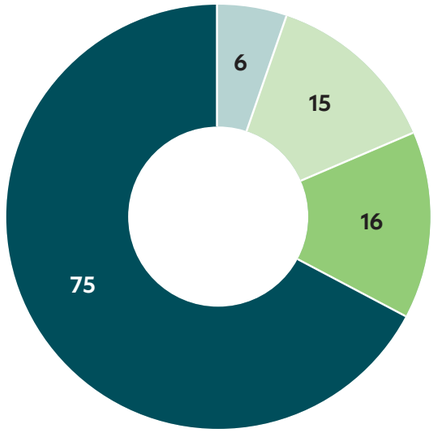
Overview

INPATIENT TREATMENT

Departments equipped with hospital beds:
112 (1,706 beds)

- **Normal care units:** 75 (1,393 beds)
- **Intermediate care units:** 16 (137 beds)
- **Intensive care units:** 15 (130 beds)
- **Week clinics:** 6 (46 beds)

Inpatients admissions: 62,174
Inpatient days: 492,180
Average number of days spent: 5.9
1-day-stays: 6,456

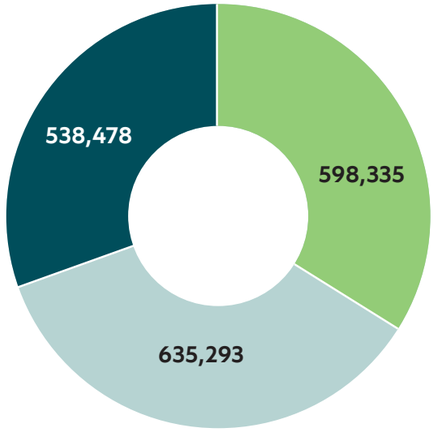


OUTPATIENT TREATMENT

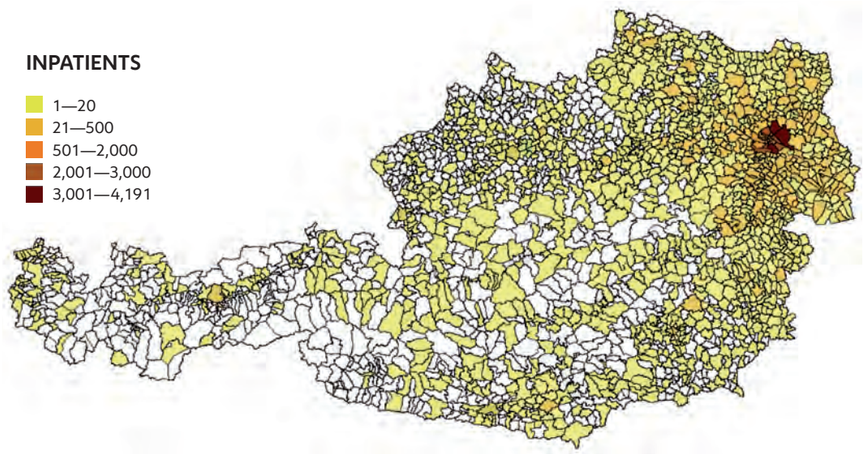
Outpatient visits: 1,772,106

- **Outpatient — first visits:** 538,478
- **Outpatient — check-up visits:** 635,293
- **Inpatients treated at outpatient clinics:** 598,335

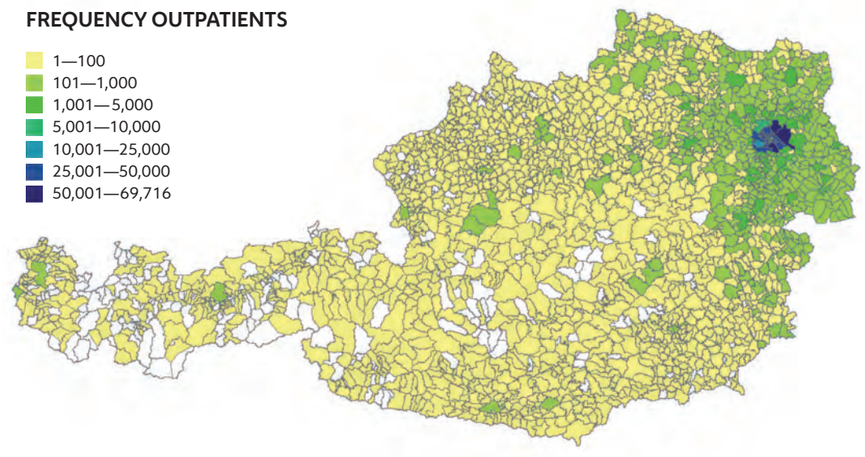
General outpatient clinics: 55
Specialized outpatient clinics: 342



INPATIENTS



FREQUENCY OUTPATIENTS

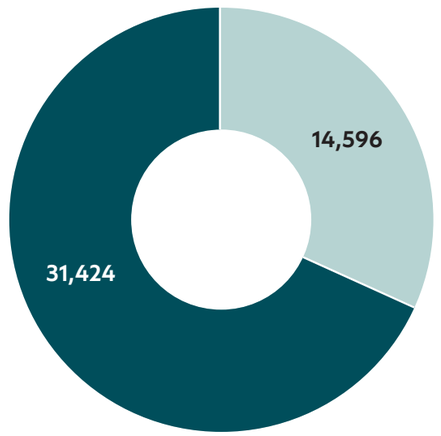


SURGERIES

Operations in total: 46,020

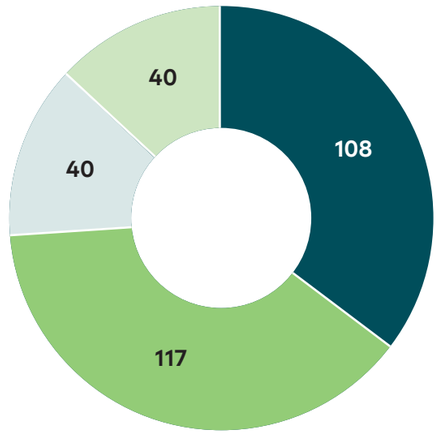
Operations in the operating theaters: 31,424
Operations in intervention rooms: 14,596

Operating theaters: 48
Intervention rooms: 11
Wake-up rooms: 8



TRANSPLANTS

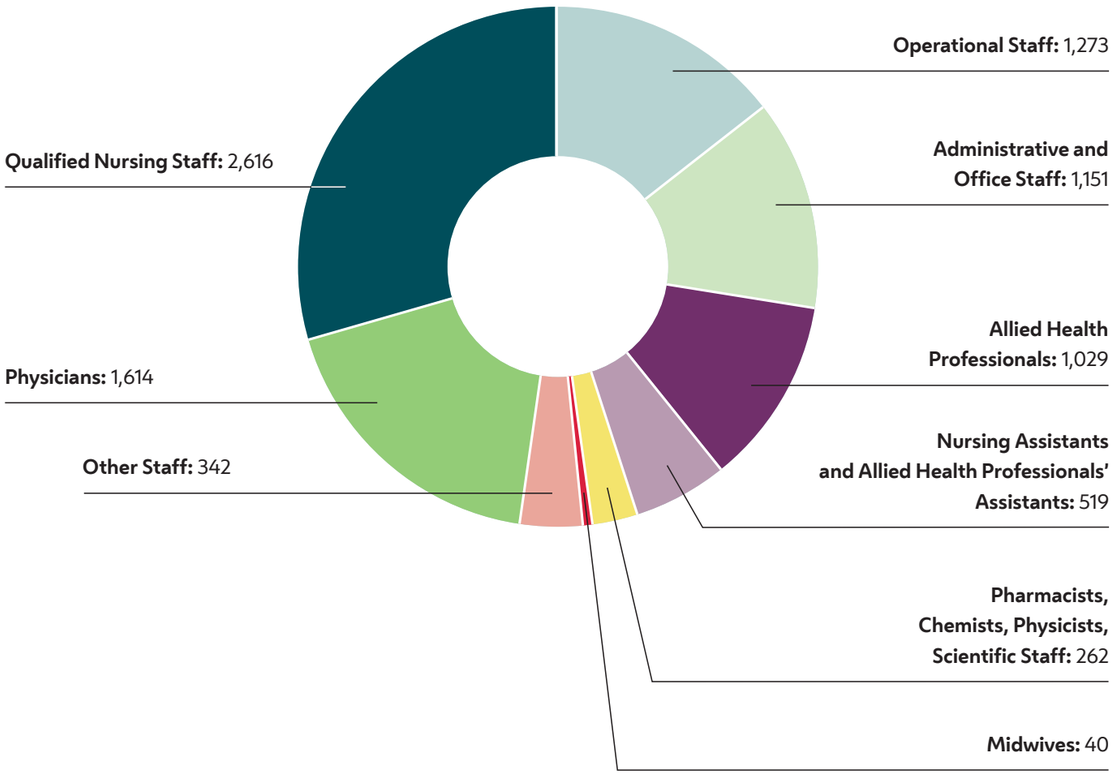
Heart: 40
Liver: 40
Lung: 117
Kidney: 108



STAFF

Interns not included; part-time employees are calculated on a basis of 40 hours a week

Staff total: 8,846



Siegfried Gierlinger, Irene Ausserlechner, Herwig Wetzlinger, Gabriela Kornek and Marco Doering (from left to right)

MANAGEMENT*

Director of the Business Unit: Herwig Wetzlinger
Medical Director: Gabriela Kornek
Head of Nursing: Irene Ausserlechner
Technical Director: Siegfried Gierlinger
Administrative Director: Marco Doering

DIRECTORATES*

Directorate of the Business Unit

Competence Center for Health and Safety Issues
Hospital Hygiene
Human Resources
Information Center and PR
Operating Theater Management
Quality and Risk Management
Special Assistant to the Director
Strategic Human Resources Development


Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Thomas Mayer-Egerer

Medical Directorate

Allied Health Professionals
Allocation and Discharge Management — Clinical Social Work
Antibiotic Stewardship Program
Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy
Clinical Requirements and Studies
Director's Assistant
Hospital Pharmacy
Incident Handling and Prevention
Medical Operations
Midwifery

Nursing Directorate

Director's Assistant
Nursing and Competence Development
Nursing and Operating Processes
Operational Human Resources Management

Technical Directorate

Authorities and Documentation
Director's Assistant
Facility Management
Health and Safety and Fire Prevention
Kitchen and Staff Restaurant
Logistics
Medical Physics
Medical Technology
Operations Department
Projects and Project Controlling
Safety Issues
Technical Controlling
Technical Infrastructure
Technical Operations Management

Economical and Administrative Affairs (Administrative Directorate)

Central Office
Clinical Administration
Controlling
Directorate Area and Secretariat
Finance and Business Administration
Medical Documentation Center

CLINICAL STRUCTURE*

Departments:

Department of Anaesthesia, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Medicine
- Division of General Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine
- Division of Cardiac Thoracic Vascular Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine
- Division of Special Anaesthesia and Pain Medicine

Department of Biomedical Imaging and Image-guided Therapy
- Division of General and Pediatric Radiology
- Division of Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology
- Division of Neuroradiology and Musculoskeletal Radiology
- Division of Nuclear Medicine

Department of Cardiac Surgery
Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
Department of Clinical Pharmacology
Department of Dermatology
Department of Emergency Medicine
Department of General Surgery
- Division of Transplantation
- Division of Vascular Surgery
- Division of Visceral Surgery

Department of Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology
Department of Medicine I
- Division of Hematology and Hemostaseology
- Division of Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine
- Division of Oncology
- Division of Palliative Care

Department of Medicine II
- Division of Angiology
- Division of Cardiology
- Division of Pulmonology

Department of Medicine III
- Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism
- Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology
- Division of Nephrology and Dialysis
- Division of Rheumatology

Department of Neurology
Department of Neurosurgery
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Division of General Gynecology and Gynecologic Oncology
- Division of Obstetrics and Feto-Maternal Medicine
- Division of Gynecological Endocrinology and Reproductive Medicine

Department of Ophthalmology and Optometry
Department of Oral, Maxillary and Facial Surgery
Department of Orthopedics and Trauma-Surgery
- Division of Orthopedics
- Division of Trauma-Surgery


Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Thomas Mayer-Egerer

Department of Otorhinolaryngology
- Division of Otorhinolaryngology
- Division of Speech and Language Therapy

Department of Pediatric Surgery

Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine
- Division of Neonatalogy, Intensive Care Medicine and Neuropediatrics
- Division of Pediatric Cardiology
- Division of Pediatric Nephrology and Gastroenterology
- Division of Pediatric Pulmonology, Allergology and Endocrinology
- Division of Pediatrics with special focus on Pediatric Hemotology-Oncology (St. Anna Children's Hospital)

Department of Physical Medicine, Rehabilitation and Occupational Medicine

Department of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery

Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy
- Division of General Psychiatry
- Division of Social Psychiatry

Department of Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy

Department of Radiooncology

Department of Thoracic Surgery

Department of Transfusion Medicine and Cell Therapy

Department of Urology

Clinical Institutes:

Institute of Laboratory Medicine
Institute of Pathology

Centers:

Comprehensive Cancer Center
Comprehensive Center for Cardiovascular Medicine
Comprehensive Center for Chest Diseases
Comprehensive Center for Clinical Neurosciences and Mental Health
Comprehensive Center for Infection Medicine
Comprehensive Center for Inflammation and Immunity
Comprehensive Center for Integrated Diagnostics
Comprehensive Center for Musculoskeletal Disorders
Comprehensive Center for Pediatrics
Comprehensive Center for Perioperative Medicine
Comprehensive Center for Rare and Undiagnosed Diseases
Vienna Cancer Center

***** Status of 2024


Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Thomas Mayer-Egerer

Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Thomas Mayer-Egerer

Performance Data

PERFORMANCE DATA INPATIENTS 2023

Departments	AUF	ENT	TRA	VST	VLA	VLE	BT	EPF	PFT	VWDBT	VWDPFT	BSY	BBE	TAB
Department of Anaesthesia, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Medicine	92	5	99	101	2,184	2,296	12,627	7	12,798	5.3	5.4	44	38	38
Department of Biomedical Imaging and Image-guided Therapy	919	919	-	-	2	2	2,046	35	2,980	2.2	3.2	8	7	7
Department of Cardiac Surgery	1,575	1,523	204	3	1,161	1,318	16,395	161	18,012	5.7	6.2	58	49	49
Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry	373	362	19	-	21	32	8,410	30	8,833	20.8	21.9	30	24	24
Department of Dermatology	842	833	7	25	38	69	7,119	17	8,018	7.8	8.8	38	21	21
Department of Emergency Medicine	4,504	1,214	544	159	3,101	511	1,596	1,230	2,984	0.3	0.6	14	14	14
Department of General Surgery	4,112	4,113	91	81	2,676	2,829	34,689	155	39,080	5.0	5.6	153	113	114
Department of Medicine I	2,736	2,635	144	340	470	858	32,160	177	35,322	9.0	9.8	118	102	102
Department of Medicine II	4,624	5,103	130	156	1,239	2,010	30,772	130	36,214	4.6	5.5	118	99	100
Department of Medicine III	3,983	4,254	106	207	1,101	1,681	37,982	208	42,664	6.7	7.5	147	121	122
Department of Neurology	1,747	1,978	25	26	517	813	17,827	228	19,932	7.0	7.8	77	57	60
Department of Neurosurgery	1,700	1,557	152	24	1,369	1,401	13,391	19	15,048	4.3	4.9	57	40	41
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology	7,485	7,463	34	24	2,085	2,112	29,270	343	36,943	3.0	3.8	119	112	113
Department of Ophthalmology and Optometry	1,584	1,580	-	-	15	11	2,598	382	4,199	1.6	2.6	18	17	17
Department of Oral, Maxillary and Facial Surgery	1,196	1,246	7	2	149	213	7,279	46	8,571	5.2	6.1	33	32	32
Department of Orthopedics and Trauma-Surgery	8,218	7,425	294	93	968	563	48,726	1,149	56,530	5.5	6.4	180	144	147
Department of Otorhinolaryngology	2,700	2,696	15	12	189	209	11,033	188	13,811	3.8	4.7	48	38	38
Department of Pediatric Surgery	2,066	2,000	57	2	292	283	3,063	1,021	5,090	1.3	2.2	21	19	19
Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine	3,971	3,609	306	47	2,134	2,124	35,349	145	39,203	5.8	6.4	130	108	110
Department of Physical Medicine, Rehabilitation and Occupational Medicine	-	298	2	1	24	324	7,245	-	7,583	22.3	23.4	24	24	24
Department of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery	800	774	14	21	266	267	7,206	53	8,042	6.7	7.5	28	26	26
Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy	978	1,007	22	1	191	245	35,759	5	37,021	29.3	30.3	121	102	104
Department of Radiooncology	1,589	1,570	19	21	113	136	6,432	375	8,064	3.7	4.7	32	23	23
Department of Thoracic Surgery	1,040	872	194	-	286	312	7,774	51	8,690	5.8	6.4	28	22	22
Department of Urology	1,792	1,729	10	13	421	387	9,217	56	11,015	4.2	5.1	48	23	27
Joint Pediatric Ward	1,548	1,546	9	-	242	248	3,963	245	5,536	2.2	3.1	15	15	15
University Hospital Vienna Total	**62,174**	**58,311**	**2,504**	**1,359**	**21,254**	**21,254**	**429,928**	**6,456**	**492,180**	**5.2**	**5.9**	**1,707**	**1,392**	**1,411**

Explanation of abbreviations:

AUF Inpatient admissions
ENT Inpatient discharges
TRA Inpatient transfers to other hospitals
VST Inpatients deceased
VLA Inpatient transfers within University Hospital Vienna — admissions
VLE Inpatient transfers within University Hospital Vienna — discharges
BT Inpatient days (value at midnight)
EPF 1-day-stays
PFT Inpatient days
VWDBT Average length of stay (data base: inpatient days — value at midnight)
VWDPFT Average length of stay (data base: inpatient days)
BSY Systemized beds (annual average)
BBE Beds available (annual average)
TAB Beds available — including multiple use per day (annual average)

PERFORMANCE DATA OUTPATIENTS 2023

Departments and Institutes	ABF	AKO	FQSE	FQA	FQS	FQG	LAP	LSP	LPG
Department of Anaesthesia, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Medicine	19,710	19,254	95	39,059	65,682	104,741	63,882	282,087	345,969
Department of Biomedical Imaging and Image-guided Therapy	94,904	24,698	622	120,224	108,423	228,647	225,073	176,627	401,700
Department of Blood Group Serology and Transfusion Medicine	1,488	3,189	141	4,818	551	5,369	100,268	193,716	293,984
Department of Cardiac Surgery	3,380	5,009	60	8,449	4,858	13,307	19,016	7,934	26,950
Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry	1,981	13,185	33	15,199	6,728	21,927	33,113	32,790	65,903
Department of Clinical Pharmacology	67	2	-	69	8	77	90	17	107
Department of Dermatology	26,061	42,031	57	68,149	3,419	71,568	206,435	8,282	214,717
Department of Emergency Medicine	36,230	6,948	203	43,381	10,168	53,549	142,089	40,751	182,840
Department of General Surgery	15,130	16,920	80	32,130	11,667	43,797	77,480	18,277	95,757
Department of Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology	125	11	-	136	2,272	2,408	239	2,307	2,546
Department of Medicine I	22,294	67,124	31	89,449	5,032	94,481	218,168	10,157	228,325
Department of Medicine II	41,008	29,584	133	70,725	21,393	92,118	182,319	77,887	260,206
Department of Medicine III	28,710	73,897	43	102,650	17,261	119,911	736,897	107,351	844,248
Department of Neurology	14,565	9,275	30	23,870	12,257	36,127	48,091	25,536	73,627
Department of Neurosurgery	6,835	6,550	186	13,571	9,334	22,905	21,245	32,955	54,200
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology	26,120	37,215	11	63,346	17,143	80,489	279,761	174,684	454,445
Department of Ophthalmology and Optometry	28,158	40,490	94	68,742	4,694	73,436	377,253	16,517	393,770
Department of Oral, Maxillary and Facial Surgery	6,447	7,743	44	14,234	3,237	17,471	36,693	7,093	43,786
Department of Orthopedics and Trauma-Surgery	76,127	57,647	224	133,998	35,531	169,529	201,955	59,703	261,658
Department of Otorhinolaryngology	16,071	13,469	37	29,577	15,278	44,855	103,276	40,515	143,791
Department of Pediatric Surgery	5,636	6,508	105	12,249	2,992	15,241	19,833	3,698	23,531
Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine	27,399	42,282	2,841	72,522	38,644	111,166	239,935	100,817	340,752
Department of Physical Medicine, Rehabilitation and Occupational Medicine	6,332	18,805	3	25,140	138,094	163,234	77,798	330,834	408,632
Department of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery	4,025	5,469	17	9,511	2,247	11,758	24,044	4,393	28,437
Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy	4,376	12,033	3	16,412	25,560	41,972	25,152	48,544	73,696
Department of Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy	261	1,503	-	1,764	67	1,831	3,796	96	3,892
Department of Radiooncology	13,330	43,555	476	57,361	10,109	67,470	140,216	26,712	166,928
Department of Thoracic Surgery	3,886	7,839	67	11,792	4,284	16,076	28,470	6,503	34,973
Department of Urology	7,052	17,409	3	24,464	5,953	30,417	69,351	12,742	82,093
Institute of Laboratory Medicine	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,929,907	6,811,604	12,741,511
Institute of Pathology	-	-	-	-	-	-	92,172	84,708	176,880
Hospital Pharmacy	770	9	1	780	15,450	16,230	775	14,963	15,738
University Hospital Vienna Total	**538,478**	**629,653**	**5,640**	**1,173,771**	**598,335**	**1,772,106**	**9,724,792**	**8,760,800**	**18,485,592**

Explanation of abbreviations:

ABF	Outpatient — first visits
AKO	Outpatient — check-up visits
FQSE	Inpatients from other hospitals treated at outpatient clinics
FQA	Frequency outpatients
FQS	Inpatients treated at outpatient clinics
FQG	Total frequency
LAP	Total number of services — outpatients
LSP	Total number of services — inpatients
LPG	Total number of services

Balance of accounts

The 2023 annual financial statement was audited by the audit firm BDO Assurance GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungs- und Steuerberatungsgesellschaft, which issued it with an unqualified auditor's opinion.

The University Hospital Vienna is a business unit of the Vienna Healthcare Group, and it does not have an independent legal personality. Its assets are separately administered as part of the "miscellaneous assets" of the City of Vienna.

Apart the City of Vienna, its primary funding is provided by the Vienna Health Fund. The additional clinical expenditure is financed by the Federal State of Austria and the Medical University of Vienna.

The annual financial statement to 31 December 2023 was prepared in accordance with the provisions contained in Section 189 et seqq. of the Austrian Commercial Code, as amended.

Photo: University Hospital Vienna/Thomas Mayer-Egerer

BALANCE SHEET AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2023

The fixed assets (excluding low-value assets) of the Business Unit University Hospital Vienna account for a large proportion of the balance sheet total. The asset intensity (proportion of fixed assets to total assets) is 68 percent (previous year: 71 percent). It is financed by investment cost subsidies from the municipality of Vienna, the Vienna Health Fund, the federal government and the Medical University of Vienna. Investments in 2023 amounted to 154.5 million euros (previous year: 122.9 million euros). The continued increase compared to the previous year resulted from the continuous implementation of the Construction Framework Agreement 2030 and the associated building activity.

Net debt also developed positively in 2023. It is calculated from borrowed capital less liquid assets and less receivables. As the increase in liabilities was lower than the increase in receivables, there was a higher negative net debt as at the 2023 balance sheet date compared to the previous year. The asset items were thus larger than the borrowed capital.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE BUSINESS YEAR 2023

Service revenues increased by around 34.2 million euros or 4.3 percent compared to the previous year. In the inpatient area, the performance level is above that of the previous year, but still below the planned figures. This is partly due to the fact that the staff shortage and COVID-19 were not included in the planning. The trend of a shift in medical services towards more severe, more cost-intensive cases continued in 2023. The largest deviation from the planning relates to elective and postponable treatments.

The management has attempted to counteract the shortage of nursing staff in order to maintain the level of service and reduce the resulting bed closures. A special "lean management" project was implemented in the Department of Urology and in the Operating Theater Group 2/Cardiac Surgery. The focus of this organizational development measure is on optimizing work processes in order to reduce waiting times and idle time for patients and employees and thus create more time for patient care. An expansion of the project is planned for 2024 (including OR Group 1 and 3).
In the outpatient area, the performance level is also significantly above the previous year's level, but below the planned figures. Both outpatient (mainly oncology treatments) and inpatient frequencies have increased.

The increase in expenses for materials and other purchased services is due on the one hand to the increased procurement of price-intensive medications and on the other hand to the sharp rise in the price of energy sources. As in the previous year, the increase in other operating expenses results on the one hand from the higher expenses for outsourced IT (Wien Digital) and on the other hand from the increase in service fees for agreements with other healthcare facilities.

Total personnel expenses, including changes in personnel provisions, rose by 46.0 million euros, which corresponds to an increase of 9.8 percent. This increase is mainly due to salary adjustments. The number of City of Vienna employees (full-time equivalents) fell by 0.3 percent to 5,974 (previous year: 5,992).

With an operating result of 10.0 million euros (previous year: operating result 0.5 million euros) and a financial result of 6.1 million euros (previous year: financial result 0.3 million euros), this results in an annual surplus of 16.1 million euros (previous year: annual surplus 0.8 million euros).
The increase in operating profit results from the higher increase in sales revenue and other operating income compared to expenses. An increase in sales of 121.5 million euros, other operating income of 38.5 million euros and changes in inventories of 3.4 million euros were offset by increases in personnel costs of 46.0 million euros and operating expenses of 104.1 million euros.

The increase in expenses is due to higher purchase prices and the continued ramp-up of operations following the pandemic. A general increase in material expenses can be seen in many areas. One example of this is the further significant increase in energy costs (electricity, heating and district cooling) of 42.4 million euros.

BALANCE SHEET AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2023

ASSETS

	12.31.2023 EUR	12.31.2022 TEUR
A. Fixed assets		
I. Intangible assets		
1. Rights and advantages	474,520.39	654
II. Tangible assets		
1. Real estate and buildings including buildings on third party's land	1,188,856,765.16	1,252,618
2. Technical equipment and machinery	115,103,531.57	103,549
3. Furniture and fixtures	49,022,168.68	48,522
4. Advance payments and work in progress	277,576,899.98	192,590
	1,630,559,365.39	1,597,279
	1,631,033,885.78	**1,597,933**
B. Current assets		
I. Inventories		
1. Raw materials and supplies	33,157,066.86	30,709
2. Services not yet chargeable	18,469,913.30	14,654
	51,626,980.16	45,363
II. Receivables and other assets		
1. Trade accounts receivable	200,197,293.90	160,843
of which > 1 year	*0*	*0*
2. Accounts due from affiliated companies	55,561,758.55	33,746
of which > 1 year	*0*	*0*
3. Other receivables and assets	222,418,701.61	211,438
of which > 1 year	*0*	*0*
	478,177,754.06	406,027
III. Cash and cash equivalents	233,429,611.59	210,729
	763,234,345.81	**662,119**
C. Prepaid expenses	**542,698.61**	**68**
	2,394,810,930.20	**2,260,119**

LIABILITIES

	12.31.2023 EUR	12.31.2022 TEUR
A. Negative equity		
I. Nominal capita	26,299,838.54	26,300
II. Accumulated loss	-29,736,398.49	-45,900
loss carried forward included: EUR 46,724,251.13		
previous year: EUR 74,432,169.16		
	-3,436,559.95	**-19,600**
B. Special item for investment subsidies		
I. Applied investment subsidies	1,631,033,885.78	1,597,933
II. Available investment subsidies	424,332,782.57	377,526
	2,055,366,668.35	**1,975,459**
C. Provisions		
I. Provision for severance payments	43,021,000.00	41,629
II. Other provisions	172,254,605.72	148,097
	215,275,605.72	**189,726**
D. Liabilities		
I. Liabilities to banks	1,773,363.87	23,799
of which < 1 year	*1,773,363.87*	*23,799*
of which > 1 year	*0*	*0*
II. Advance payments received	991,615.89	1,360
of which < 1 year	*244,255.47*	*206*
of which > 1 year	*747,360.42*	*1,154*
III. Accounts payable — trade	99,445,291.57	75,410
of which < 1 year	*99,445,291.57*	*70,775*
of which > 1 year	*0*	*4,635*
IV. Liabilities to affiliated companies	5,309,280.74	4,836
of which < 1 year	*5,309,280.74*	*4,836*
of which > 1 year	*0*	*0*
V. Other liabilities	19,823,234.64	8,897
of which, arising from social security	*0*	*47*
of which < 1 year	*19,823,234.64*	*8,897*
of which > 1 year	*0*	*0*
	127,342,786.71	**114,302**
of which < 1 year	*126,595,426.29*	*108,513*
of which > 1 year	*747,360.42*	*5,789*
E. Deferred income	**262,429.37**	**232**
	2,394,810,930.20	**2,260,119**

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE BUSINESS YEAR 2023

	12.31.2023 EUR	12.31.2022 TEUR
1. Revenues		
a) Revenue from operating activities	*834,462,429.23*	*800,232*
b) Reimbursed operating expenses	*329,861,743.89*	*242,630*
c) Contributions to the additional clinical expenses	*36,363,636.36*	*36,364*
	1,200,687,809.48	1,079,226
2. Change in services not yet chargeable	3,815,762.60	370
3. Other operating income		
a) Income from the disposal of fixed assets	*12,654.34*	*38*
b) Income from the release of provisions	*386,878.87*	*503*
c) Income from the release of investment subsidies	*115,726,503.73*	*112,589*
d) Income from the reimbursement of expenditures for pensions paid	*91,466,968.41*	*83,188*
e) Other	*166,780,034.83*	*139,512*
	374,373,040.18	335,830
4. Cost of materials and outside services		
a) Cost of materials	*292,630,247.21*	*278,640*
b) Cost of outside services	*98,532,413.54*	*54,014*
	-391,162,660.75	-332,654
5. Human resources expenses		
a) Wages	46,056,077.68	41,828
b) Salaries	295,652,780.51	272,618
c) Social expenses	172,335,703.64	153,613
of which expenses for pensions	*94,245,427.27*	*85,751*
aa) expenses for severance payments and payments to the employee welfare fund	*7,816,158.78*	*2,098*
bb) expenses for mandatory social security contributions and other mandatory contributions depending on compensation	*70,274,117.59*	*65,764*
	-514,044,561.83	-468,059
6. Depreciation of intangible and tangible assets	-121,240,423.14	-117,359
of which unscheduled depreciation	*0*	*-1,353*
7. Other operating expenses		
a) Taxes, other than income taxes	*127,486,715.52*	*108,480*
b) Other	*414,925,886.57*	*388,369*
	-542,412,602.09	-496,849
8. Earnings before interest and tax (subtotal)	**10,016,364.45**	**505**
9. Other interest and similar income	6,170,889.75	539
10. Interest and similar expenditure	23,453.98	220
11. Financial result (sub-total of items 9 and 10)	**6,147,435.77**	**319**
12. Surplus for the year/shortfall *(subtotal)*	**16,163,800.22**	**824**
13. Loss carried forward from previous year	-45,900,198.71	-46,724
14. Accumulated loss (total)	**-29,736,398.49**	**-45,900**

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