



Who we are and how we can help:
Herz- und Diabeteszentrum NRW
Bad Oeynhausen

Key statistics

- **Specialist hospital for the treatment of cardiac, vascular and diabetic diseases:** With 37,000 patients per annum, including 14,700 inpatients, the Herz- und Diabeteszentrum Nordrhein-Westfalen. (HDZ NRW) is one of the leading institutions of its kind in Europe.
- **Expertise in great demand:** We perform more than 6,400 heart operations and 10,000 catheter examinations per annum (including 3,000 interventions), as well as 800 electrophysiological examinations and the elimination of more than 1,000 congenital heart defects.
- **Quality and experience:** Since the HDZ NRW opened its doors, more than 125,000 open-heart operations and 270,000 catheter examinations have been successfully performed.
- **Specialist for heart transplantations:** Since 1989, more than 2,200 hearts have been transplanted and more than 3,400 ventricular assist devices fitted at the HDZ NRW.
- **Specialist for implants:** The HDZ NRW is one of the largest centers for cardiac pacemakers and defibrillators. Our range of so-called electrode devices includes many different systems.
- **Acclaimed:** (For example) as a European Hypertension League Center of Excellence for the diagnosis and treatment of hypertensive diseases, as a specialist institution for adults with congenital heart defects, and as a certified German Diabetes Society (DDG) treatment center.
- **Focus on human beings:** A staff of more than 2,200 employees cares daily for the well-being of our patients.
- **Comprehensive care at our Diabetes Center:** Every year more than 2,500 patients with diabetes profit from a complete care program which also covers all secondary diseases.
- **Top-level medicine for everyone:** All patients have access to the best possible treatment and care for their individual needs, whether they have statutory or private health insurance. The HDZ NRW has a total of 500 beds, including 100 for intensive care.
- **Outstanding infrastructure** The HDZ NRW has at its disposal six cardiac catheter laboratories, a pediatric cardiac catheter laboratory, an ultramodern hybrid operating theater, the latest MRT and PET-CT imaging diagnostics, a sleep laboratory and telemedical monitoring – all of which are state-of-the-art.



Dr. Karin Overlack
CEO HDZ NRW

Dear Reader,

Stent or bypass, catheter or surgery, wound healing or amputation? Patients with cardiac, vascular and metabolic diseases require three major areas of help if they are to recover as quickly and thoroughly as possible:

1. Accurate and fast medical diagnosis.
2. Rapid disease treatment following a therapy drawn up individually and according to the latest scientific findings.
3. Competent consultation and attentive medical and nursing care, both in hospital and afterwards – in close cooperation with the referring physicians.

The HDZ NRW favors state-of-the-art and gentle procedures. This is one of the reasons why, year after year, 37,000 patients entrust themselves to our care. Some of them travel long distances in order to be diagnosed and treated by our specialists. Our performance statistics are testimony to the high quality and leading position of the Herz- und Diabeteszentrum NRW, both at home and internationally. A short overview is provided on the left-hand page.

Whether you are a heart and/or diabetes patient with special requirements and a complex clinical picture, or a concerned parent seeking advice regarding the treatment of your child – at our hospital in Bad Oeynhausen you are in very experienced hands.

On the following pages you can find out who we are and how we can help. We are on hand with help and advice for any health-related questions you might have.

I hope you enjoy reading this brochure,
Dr. Karin Overlack





Our compassionate care starts when you arrive



Our patients particularly enjoy the pleasant atmosphere

Welcome to the Herz- und Diabeteszentrum Nordrhein-Westfalen

With over 37,000 patients per annum, including 14,700 inpatients, the Herz- und Diabeteszentrum Nordrhein-Westfalen (HDZ NRW) is one of the largest hospitals treating cardiac, vascular and diabetic diseases in Germany.

The HDZ NRW is internationally renowned for its outstanding therapeutic quality and numerous medical and scientific cooperations with famous hospitals and institutes. Patients come from all over the world to be treated in Bad Oeynhausen.

Four clinics working hand in hand for integrated patient care

Four clinics are united under one roof at the HDZ NRW,

working in harmony for an integrated treatment of cardiac, vascular and metabolic diseases.

The Clinic for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery performs all cardiosurgical operating techniques at the highest level. In the Clinic for Cardiology, all cardiac, vascular and circulatory diseases are diagnosed and treated according to the very latest scientific research.

The Center for Congenital Heart Defects treats all patients with congenital heart defects, from premature babies to adults.

At the Diabetes Center, young and old patients alike receive the best possible treatment, also for secondary diseases such as cardiac or vascular conditions.

Individual treatment concept

We are convinced: the expertise and skill of our physicians and nurses, our outstanding hygiene concept, as well as the particularly friendly and pleasant atmosphere we create all make a significant contribution to the success of our treatment. This is why, in addition to our outstanding medical performance, we also set great store by our nursing concept, which always focuses on the patients and their individual needs.

Another important element of our therapeutic concept is the close involvement of relatives and next-of-kin. Beyond the traditional hospital routine, the HDZ NRW hosts numerous other functions, such as cultural events and physician-patient seminars.

The HDZ NRW regularly receives praise and recognition for this approach to medical treatment and nursing.

For the good of our patients: research and treatment under one roof

The HDZ NRW has been a university hospital of the Ruhr-University of Bochum since 1989. Our employees are researchers and teachers. This means that, as a university hospital with its own Center for Clinical Research and Development for continual improvement to the services we offer, our patients can only benefit from our steadily growing scientific expertise.

Welcome to the Herz- und Diabeteszentrum NRW!

Clinic for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery



"For me, cardiosurgery is not just a profession, but a calling. Improving the lives of people with heart diseases is the most rewarding aspect of my work – it motivates me to the highest levels of concentration and care every single day."

*Prof. Jan Gummert, MD
Director Clinic for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*



Thanks to the high number of operations they perform, our surgeons enjoy the benefit of routine, even for complex interventions.

Top-level cardiosurgery

The specialists at the Clinic for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery perform the entire range of cardiosurgical operating techniques. The Clinic outperforms all others in Germany in the areas of cardiac valve surgery, heart transplantation, artificial heart implantation and cardiac pacemaker/ ICD intervention. We transplanted over 70 hearts in a year.

Whenever possible we select gentle operating techniques, such as minimally invasive procedures, which are far less of a burden to our patients.

Especially trained and highly experienced cardioanesthetists are on hand before and during surgery. They use particularly gentle, state-of-the-art anesthesia techniques and collaborate closely with the surgeons during each intervention.

We pursue a holistic approach when treating our patients: in addition to our expert surgeons, a caring team of nurses and physiotherapists also contributes of our patients to their recovery.

Patients additionally have the option of psychological assistance. Since family members often suffer extreme stress levels in this situation, we include next-of-kin in the consultation process if desired.

Optimal care for transplant and artificial heart patients

In the Clinic for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, transplant patients are in capable and experienced hands: more than 2,200 transplantations have been performed by our cardiosurgeons since 1987.

An additional cardiosurgical focus is the implantation of ventricular

assist devices and artificial hearts. In our very own artificial heart program we are currently working on further development of these life-saving devices. On a separate ward designed especially for this purpose, artificial heart patients receive optimal care from experienced specialists and nurses with special training in this field.

Safety through experience

With more than 6,400 interventions per year, we are one of the leading institutions of its type in the world. Thanks to the high number of operations they perform, our surgeons enjoy the benefit of routine, even for complex interventions. Experience means safety – which every patient is able to profit from.

Our main areas of focus:

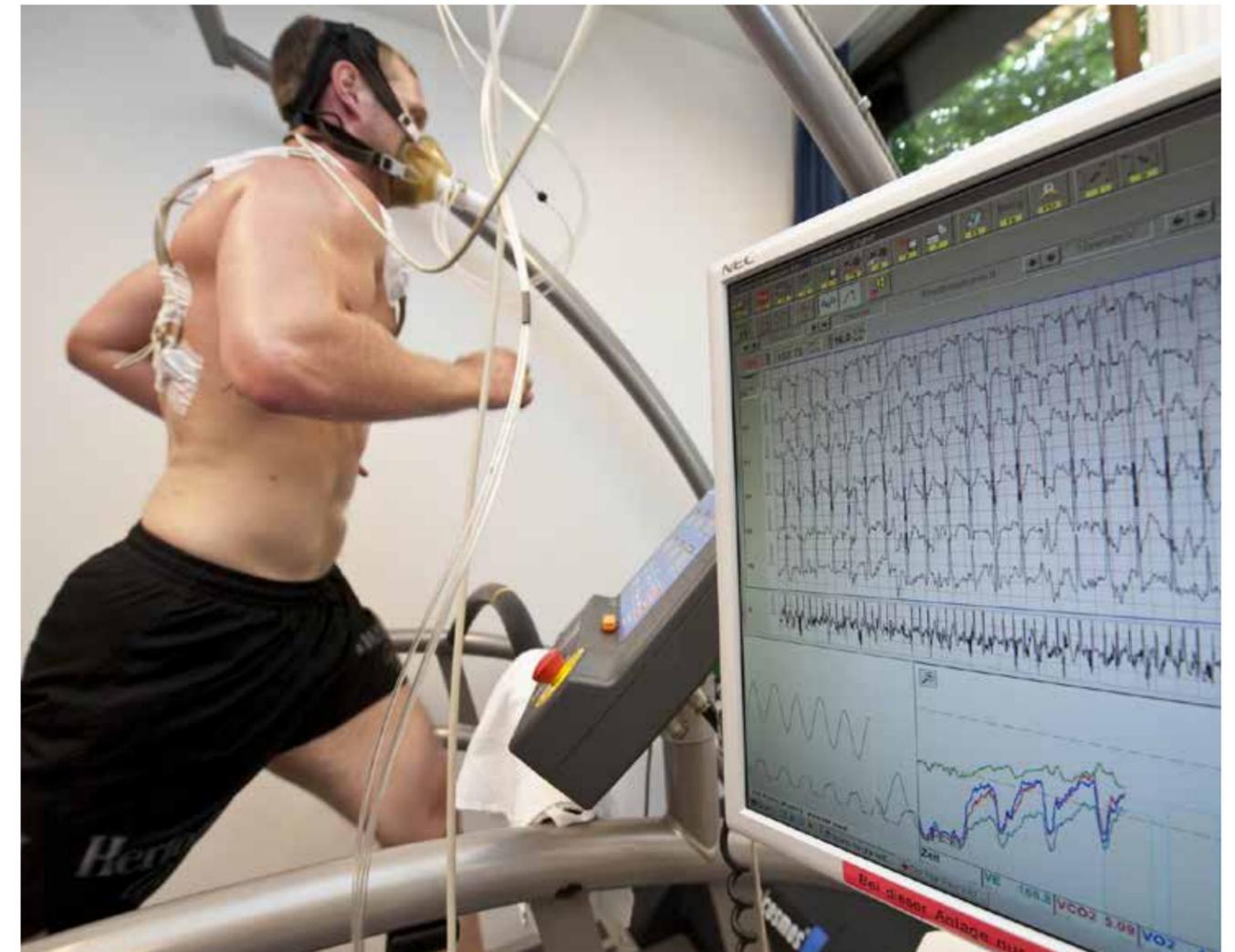
- All cardiosurgical techniques
- Minimally invasive surgery
- Ventricular assist devices and artificial heart therapy
- Heart transplantations

Clinic for Cardiology



"Cardiology has progressed a great deal, benefiting all patients. I strive to treat my patients with the gentlest and most effective diagnostic and therapeutic techniques available, in order to increase their quality of life and life expectancy as much as possible."

Prof. Dieter Horstkotte, MD
Director Clinic for Cardiology



The German national handball team places its trust in the sports cardiologists at the Heart and Diabetes Center North Rhine-Westphalia.

High-tech for the heart

The Clinic for Cardiology is one of the leading diagnostic and therapeutic centers for coronary artery diseases, heart valve defects, cardiac insufficiency, myocardial diseases, dysrhythmia and inflammatory heart diseases worldwide. Patients are treated with state-of-the-art technology in our outpatients unit or on our cardiological wards.

With a holistic approach to treatment in mind, we provide all diagnostic and therapeutic procedures. In addition to standard diagnostic methods, we also use the latest noninvasive imaging techniques, such as 3D-echocardiography. Our range of diagnostic services is rounded off by the largest cardiological sleep laboratory for the diagnosis of sleep-related respiratory disorders in Germany.

We attach great importance to gentle treatment methods. In addition to six cardiac catheter laboratories with low-radiation X-ray, in which all standard cardiac catheter treatments are routinely performed, we also have at our disposal an ultramodern hybrid operating theater.

Gentle treatment for the heart and vessels

Heart valve interventions, as well as heart valve replacements, are possible in our Clinic without major surgery. Diabetics frequently suffer from cardiac, circulatory and vascular diseases. Providing these patients with the best possible therapy is an additional focus of the Clinic for Cardiology. Any therapeutic interventions performed on diabetics always go hand in hand with optimal blood sugar adjustments and

concomitant drug therapy. In order to guarantee holistic care of diabetics with heart diseases, we cooperate closely with the Diabetes Center.

With a healthy heart to peak sporting performance

A healthy heart is an indispensable requirement for sporting activity. Our Clinic for Cardiology is one of the leading institutions in Germany for the cardiological monitoring of sportsmen and women in all performance classes. Our experienced cardiologists also look after the very best, for example the German national handball team and the German national decathlon team.

Our main areas of focus:

- Cardiac catheter intervention
- Electrophysiology/sleep laboratory
- Interdisciplinary angiology
- Coronary artery diseases (certified cardiac emergency room/ chest-pain-unit CPU)
- Angiology, pulmonology and intensive care medicine

Center for Congenital Heart Defects



"Our whole team works together to give children and adults with congenital heart defects a healthy outlook."

*Prof. Deniz Kececioglu, MD (r.) and
Dr. Eugen Sandica
Directors Center for Congenital Heart Defects*



We firmly believe: the right surroundings speed up the healing process.

Greatest possible therapeutic success in all patients, big and small

The Center for Congenital Heart Defects is one of the leading clinics for the treatment of children and adolescents with congenital heart defects worldwide, as well as a certified center for the treatment of adults with congenital heart defects.

Our therapeutic concept is based on medical excellence and a sensitive and caring approach to nursing. At our Center we treat all types of congenital heart defects in children, adolescents and adults using the very latest methods. In addition to drug therapy, these range from gentle catheter techniques to open-heart surgery.

A specially trained team of pediatric cardiologists and surgeons works closely together. Heart valve interventions

are an additional area of competence at our Center, in which our specialists achieve outstanding results on an international scale.

Approximately 500 cardiac catheter interventions and over 400 surgical operations are testimony to the wealth of experience the Center possesses.

Gentle treatment for the very smallest of patients

The pediatric cardiologists at the Center for Congenital Heart Defects have enormous expertise in cardiac catheter therapy. In a cardiac catheter laboratory designed especially for the treatment of infants and small children, our specialists correct congenital heart defects using particularly gentle methods.

Our services range from diagnostic cardiac catheter examinations to catheter interventions in newborn and premature babies.

We rely on the support of the family

Children need those people most important to them – this is why we believe that a close and caring collaboration with parents and relatives is a factor which is essential to therapeutic success in our small patients.

In our bright and friendly children's hospital we have a number of rooms where parents can spend the night with their children. For our individual approach to the care of such young patients we have been awarded the "Ausgezeichnet. Für Kinder" (Certified excellence. For children) seal of approval.

Our main areas of focus:

- Surgical treatment of all congenital heart defects
- Interventional pediatric cardiology
- Ventricular assistance in children and adolescents
- Heart transplantation (children and adults with congenital heart defects)



"More and more people are currently suffering from diabetes and its secondary disorders. With our work we aim to help individuals on their path to leading an active and fulfilled life with this disease."

*Prof. Diethelm Tschöpe, MD, Dr. h.c.
Director Diabetes Center*



We draw up an individual treatment plan for each patient on the basis of a thorough diagnosis and a wealth of experience.

Individualized therapies: the best possible treatment for each patient

The Diabetes Center aims first and foremost to give people with diabetes the best possible quality of life. At our specialist Center, which has been certified several times over, we treat 2,500 patients per year, from the very young to the very old and with all variations of the disease.

A special focus is the treatment of patients who have not only diabetes, but other diseases as well. In particular, the HDZ NRW is one of the top addresses in Germany for the treatment of diabetics with cardiac and vascular complaints.

In order to help these patients, our experienced team of specialists first takes the time to make a thorough diagnosis. They have at their disposal all state-of-the-art diagnostic

methods, for example for the clarification of endocrinological or gastroenterological diseases. Based on the diagnostic findings, our specialists then draw up an appropriate treatment plan for each patient individually, designed specifically to suit his or her clinical picture.

We collaborate closely with the other HDZ NRW Clinics and Institutes at all stages of this process.

Autonomy for a happier life

Patients' habits and diet are a major factor influencing the success of treatment. We make an extensive analysis and then advise our patients regarding necessary changes to their lifestyle. They learn to deal with their disease autonomously, which in turn makes for a happier life. In addition,

they can turn to our psychologists, podologists and orthopedic specialists for help at all times.

Optimal wound care for diabetics

Diabetic patients frequently suffer from wounds which are slow to heal. The problem is further exacerbated by the fact that a reduced sensitivity to pain often leads them to notice the broken skin much later than usual.

In our special wound healing unit, our experts therefore pay attention to early diagnosis and specific treatment of diabetes-induced foot complaints.

Our wound specialists achieve outstanding therapeutic results, in particular with regard to avoiding amputation and accelerating the healing process.

Our main areas of focus:

- Treatment of all types of diabetes and their secondary diseases
- Integrated therapy of cardiac and diabetic diseases
- Wound healing
- Endocrinology/gastroenterology

The best possible care for our patients



Focus on nursing

Human warmth and medical expertise: at the HDZ NRW this motto governs our work and interactions. We do our utmost to make the time spent in our hospital by patients of all ages as pleasant as possible, accompanying them through their period of sickness attentively and kindly.

The 700 nurses on our staff adhere particularly closely to this aspect of their work. For us, nursing and state-of-the-art high performance medicine are tightly interwoven – enabling us to guarantee optimal treatment.

Our nurses always focus on the human being, with all his (or her) individual needs, feelings and thoughts.

Comfortable accommodation for all patients

We believe that the right surroundings and accommodation can contribute to a speedy recovery. For this reason the HDZ NRW welcomes its patients in a bright and friendly reception area. Comfortable single and twin rooms are available on the wards.

Young patients can sleep in one room with their parents if the mother and father would like to stay close to their children during their time in hospital.

Alternatively, parents can sleep in the Ronald McDonald House for Parents just a few minutes walk away. In this “home from home”, families have not only a separate apartment at their disposal, but also the chance to chat with the families of other children with heart diseases.

Three questions for Thomas Hanke Director Hospital Services HDZ NRW

Herr Hanke, how would you describe the art of nursing?
Thomas Hanke: The nurses at the HDZ NRW are the first port of call whenever our patients, who are often severely ill, need anything. This gives us a significant part of the responsibility for their well-being, which is and always will be our top priority. Our nurses manage to meet this high standard by attending to their patients with a high degree of dedication and personal commitment.



Thomas Hanke, Director Hospital Services HDZ NRW

What are the cornerstones of nursing care?

We do not have a standard care concept at the HDZ NRW. Our nursing is always geared to the individual needs of the patients. This means that, for us, a major cornerstone of nursing care is intensive communication with the patients and their families.

Which three keywords could be used to describe the nursing team at the HDZ NRW?

Diversity, commitment and competence.

Diversity: approximately 1200 nurses, medical assistants and medical technicians work in the Clinics and Institutes, on the wards, in the functional areas and in the outpatient units of the HDZ NRW.

Commitment: in order to make our patients' stay in hospital as pleasant as possible, our nurses sometimes take an unconventional approach and show great commitment in endeavoring to fulfill the wishes of their patients.

Competence: many years of experience in the nursing of patients with cardiac, vascular, circulatory and diabetic diseases, together with extensive training and further training, guarantee continual development of the nursing quality we provide.

A pleasant environment is part of our therapeutic concept.



A hospital with good taste

Good-quality food is conducive to a speedy recovery.

As soon as our patients arrive, we draw up a diet sheet tailored to their individual health requirements, enabling them to enjoy delicious and healthy meals without any discomfort.

Our chefs are passionate about making the food that is right for you taste good – thus contributing to your recovery.



Rooms to feel good in

All rooms at the HDZ NRW contain state-of-the-art equipment, while being extremely comfortable. Optional extras are also available to patients who would like a little added luxury.

For patients with particularly high standards we can offer stylishly furnished single rooms with more of a hotel ambience.

We will be happy to give you further information about our optional extras and additional services on request.

Services to make our patients feel better

Numerous facilities are in place to make staying at the HDZ NRW easier for our patients. Our very own shuttle service transports patients right to the hospital door.

Our receptionists, Clinic secretaries and social workers can all answer questions about our hospital and any follow-up rehabilitation.

Our attractive dining, recreational and quiet areas are open to all our patients and visitors. The beautiful hospital surroundings

invite you to spend time outside or to go for a walk.

Our “Ladies in Green” are hospital volunteers who run little errands for our patients, going to the hospital shop or helping them to borrow books from the hospital library.

We also have a large selection of newspapers and magazines for our patients to read.

The comprehensive range of HDZ NRW services is rounded off by regularly changing art exhibitions and events, a cafeteria, a chapel as a “place of silence”, as well as a hairdressing, beauty and pedicure salon.

Our holistic treatment concept



All-round care

For us at the HDZ NRW, it is not the clinical picture which is the primary focus, but the human being. Our physicians guarantee top-level medical expertise – independently of whether patients have statutory or private health insurance. Our attentive and continually trained nursing team takes care of our patients' well-being around the clock.

Our holistic treatment concept also includes physiotherapy, professional psychological support and individual dietary advice.

The best recipe for everyone

A healthy diet plays an important role in the long-term success of treatment for our heart and diabetes patients. It is important not only that they eat meals at the HDZ NRW which have been especially selected for their individual therapeutic requirements, but that they also enjoy a balanced diet once they are back home. We give our patients tricks and tips for achieving this, as well as some delicious recipes to take with them when they leave.

If they wish, patients can even participate in practical cookery courses in our hospital kitchen studio. Here we welcome not only patients, but all interested parties.

Three questions for Prof. Dr. med. Jan Gummert, MD, Medical Director HDZ NRW

Prof. Gummert, what makes the medical prowess and nursing at the HDZ NRW so special?

Prof. Gummert: We are in constant communication with our patients, their next of kin, as well as their physicians and specialists. A high degree of sensitivity and expertise is required, from which both sides profit. Every day we care for a wide range of human beings – from newborn babies to the very elderly.



Medical Director Prof. Jan Gummert, MD, is representative of the top-quality medicine to be found at the HDZ NRW

Is there a strategy which leads to the best possible treatment?

We take a very close look at the patient – where does he (or she) come from? What are his circumstances? On this basis we then draw up a tailor-made treatment and nursing plan for his stay with us. What does the patient require? What do we need to pay special attention to? Does he have any wishes of his own? The resulting individual concept will include all the latest information surrounding his disease, while taking into account our considerable experience and interdisciplinary competence.

Why do patients travel to Bad Oeynhausen just to come to the HDZ NRW?

Because they want to receive good-quality treatment. This certainty is provided by an institution which is both experienced and friendly, but which most of all adheres to high standards of quality at all times. Medical and research competence, a focus on quality, top hygiene standards and state-of-the-art gentle therapeutic techniques are the trademarks of the Herz- und Diabeteszentrum NRW, upon which our patients can always rely.

The best treatment for body and soul: the HDZ NRW favors a holistic approach.



Moving towards health

Experienced physiotherapists prepare our cardiac patients for surgery and help with their postoperative mobilization.

For our diabetic patients, the exercise therapy practised at the HDZ NRW in accordance with the latest physiotherapeutic methods is a key stepping stone to a better quality of life.



Drawing new strength

Open your heart and we will take it to heart! Talking can help to come to terms with a difficult situation.

Our offer of psychological support is open to all HDZ NRW patients and their next of kin.

Depending on the issues at stake, consultations can be held on a one-to-one basis, with partners, parents or other family members.

Talk to us!

A healthy future, free of anxiety

During their stay at the HDZ NRW, our patients are always cared for physiologically – regardless of whether they undergo surgery or not. We do everything to ensure that our patients regain full mobility as quickly as possible.

Our therapists draw up individual plans, monitor exercise routines and always collaborate closely with the physicians to make treatment as effective as possible. With all mobilization procedures it is very important that patients become aware

of their tolerance threshold and are able to take the foundations we have laid and build upon them in follow-up rehabilitation and their lives back home.

Regardless of which Clinic they are in, all patients and their next of kin can also take advantage of pastoral and/or psychological support. Consultations with experienced chaplains and psychologists can be an important aid to dealing with disease.

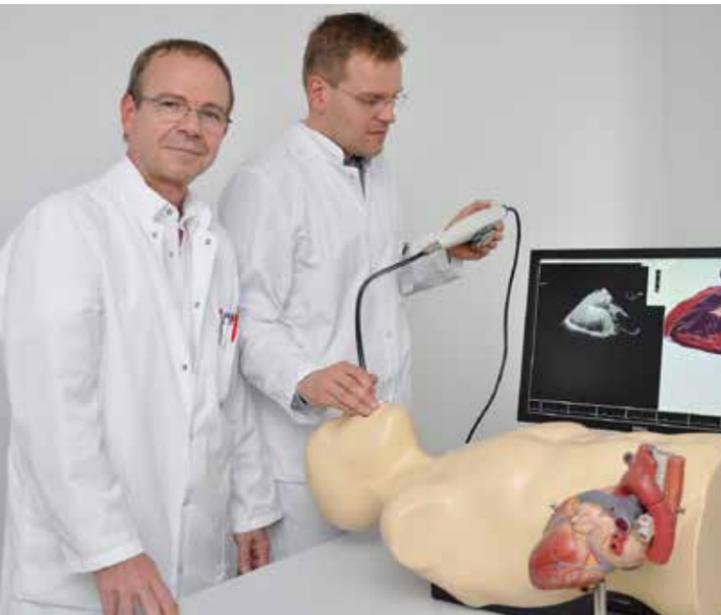
Talking can instill confidence, enabling fears to be faced together.

The HDZ NRW Institutes

Cumulative expertise under one roof

The foremost goal of everyone at the Herz- und Diabeteszentrum NRW is to work together to palpably improve the quality of life of heart and diabetes patients. In addition to medical competence, pleasant surroundings, excellent service, empathetic nursing, as well as comprehensive aftercare and rehabilitation options, the services provided by our Institutes

are an additional and vital piece of the puzzle which, in its entirety, amounts to the best possible recovery for our patients. The recipe for success favored by our Institutes is: proximity to patients, intensive interdisciplinary exchange of information and ongoing research to continually improve our approach – for the good of our patients.



Institute for Anesthesiology

Anesthesia in patients with heart diseases makes huge demands on the responsible physicians. All anesthetists who work at the HDZ NRW therefore have to supplement their qualification in general anesthesia with a specialization in cardioanesthesia. At the HDZ NRW only state-of-the-art anesthesia techniques are used, guaranteeing that the procedure is as gentle as possible for our patients. In order to provide the best possible care, our anesthetists work very closely with the responsible surgeon and use the latest technology to monitor the patient's vital functions during the entire operation. The Institute for Anesthesiology, headed by Prof. Uwe Schirmer, MD (photo, left), is continually setting new and improved safety standards for patients undergoing cardiac surgery, both in Germany and worldwide. Further training at the HDZ NRW for physicians from other hospitals is much in demand.



Institute for Radiology, Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging

Headed by Prof. Wolfgang Burchert, MD (left), the Institute for Radiology, Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging is continually expanding. Today the Institute serves not only the HDZ NRW with its expertise, but also other hospitals. One important focus of its work and research is to reduce the ionizing radiation of large medical devices. The Institute employs the very latest examination techniques (SPECT/CT, PET/CT, MRT), always in accordance with international standards. An interdisciplinary team of physicians performs these extremely specialized services around the clock – providing diagnostics of the highest quality for inpatients with cardiac or metabolic diseases, as well as for outpatients, for example requiring nuclear medical procedures for tumors or thyroid disease.



Premium clinical care at home – with IFAT a reality.



Institute for Applied Telemedicine (IFAT)

The Institute for Applied Telemedicine (IFAT) looks after patients with chronic heart diseases at home, e.g. following inpatient treatment or a first diagnosis, so that these patients can also rely on top-level care. Telemedicine facilitates medically sound and reliable monitoring of crucial health parameters, independently of where a patient is, helping that patient to enjoy superior care and a better quality of life.

IFAT offers patients different care programs depending on their individual clinical pictures. For example, patients can have their ECG or blood values checked without leaving home. Other programs support patients in coping with the risks of their disease on a daily basis, as well as learning to live healthily.

The HDZ NRW Institutes



Top-quality analyses for the HDZ NRW and numerous other medical institutions.

Institute for Laboratory and Transfusion Medicine

Headed by Prof. Cornelius Knabbe, MD (photo, right), the Institute has two divisions: laboratory medicine and transfusion medicine. The laboratory medicine division conducts comprehensive laboratory tests in the fields of clinical chemistry, hematology, hemostaseology, immunology, microbiology, endocrinology and molecular biology, not only for the HDZ NRW, but also for other hospitals in the region. The physicians and their staff employ more than 500 different

methods in order to provide accurate test results as quickly as possible.

Approximately 6.6 million analyses are conducted per year, including numerous molecular biological procedures for genetic diagnosis and detecting infectious agents. On average, a laboratory request for a single patient currently leads to about 13 test results.

In order to guarantee an efficient flow of information, which in many cases can be life-saving, the central laboratory is staffed around the clock.



Uni.Blood Donor Service OWL

The Uni.Blood Donor Service OWL within the Institute for Laboratory and Transfusion Medicine is responsible for manufacturing blood products which are used during cardiosurgery at the HDZ NRW, as well as delivered to other hospitals. Approx. 31,000 people p.a. currently donate blood, blood plasma and blood platelets (thrombocytes) on a regular basis. In 2015, approx. 67,000 concentrates from red blood cells (erythrocytes), approx. 90,000 blood plasma preparations and approx. 11,000 concentrates from blood platelets (thrombocytes) were manufactured.

In order to achieve this mammoth task on a regular basis, the staff at the Uni.Blood Donor Service OWL are always looking for new volunteers who would like to help by donating blood. Donations are used to counteract severe blood loss in accident victims, for example, or during surgery, enabling lives to be saved.

In addition, blood donations are an important basis for some drugs and medical applications.



Hygiene

Sick or recently operated human beings are particularly susceptible to bacterial pathogens and other external influences dangerous to their health. Hygiene and cleanliness are therefore a top priority in any hospital.

At the HDZ NRW we have always had an especially appointed team in charge of hygiene, and the hygiene measures we take extend far beyond the national guidelines and recommendations of the Robert Koch Institute (RKI).

Thorough examinations on admission and innovative methods, such as molecular pathogen detection and mass spectrometry, are just two examples of how we contribute to effectively fighting even the most resistant of pathogens. Two further measures mean additional safety for our patients. Firstly, hygiene documentation at the HDZ NRW is standardized, complete and thorough.

Secondly, a hygiene training concept has been developed especially for our hospital: in regular further training measures, all employees are familiarized with this topic, enabling us not only to maintain our high standards, but to continue to improve upon them.

Safety across the region



Help from person to person: the HDZ NRW heart valve bank.

Central services for the entire region

In addition to its Clinic and Institutes, the HDZ NRW also houses so-called central services, serving not only our own patients and staff, but also other hospitals and firms within our region.

Heart valve and tissue bank

The HDZ NRW was the first hospital in Germany to receive official authorization for the preparation of human heart valves. Today it is still the most modern unit of its kind, and in 2004 it received a special award from the state of North

Rhine-Westphalia. More than 1,000 heart valve operations are performed here every year, incorporating both biological and mechanical heart valves.

At the HDZ NRW, human heart valves are prepared according to the current guidelines laid down in the German Drug Law. They are used for interventions in conjunction with a relevant indication, for example in patients with infections, or in children and adolescents.

The HDZ NRW heart valve bank collaborates with numerous other hospitals, all of which trust in its high levels of expertise and quality.



Pharmacy

Headed by Horst Sieling (left), the efficiency of our central pharmacy is valued not only by the four HDZ NRW Clinics, but also by 14 additional hospitals and medical institutions. Not surprisingly, the 1,400 m² occupied by the central pharmacy and its warehouse are always humming with activity. In a structured quality management process, prescriptions and requests are taken, purchasing and deliveries coordinated and continuous quality controls performed.

On average, the central pharmacy at the HDZ NRW issues 450,000 items per annum and has in stock approx. 700 different medicines in approx. 1,200 different dosage forms, as well as approx. 200 other articles traditionally sold by chemists.

The number of single-use articles is also impressive: approx. 2,000 items are regularly called for, starting with the disposable syringe, moving on to cannulas and special catheters and ending with ventricular assist devices and artificial hearts. The whole range has to be either in stock or purchasable at very short notice. In addition to its pharmaceutical expertise, our central pharmacy therefore also has to be a master at logistics.

Just one reason why, in 2011, the Westphalia-Lippe chamber of pharmacists awarded the HDZ NRW central pharmacy its prestigious quality certificate, and not for the first time.



Center for Occupational Medicine, Environmental Medicine and Safety Technology (ZAUS)

Our physicians, nurses and other staff are passionate about their work – which is very demanding on body and soul. This is why the Center for Occupational Medicine, Environmental Medicine and Safety Technology (ZAUS) ensures the highest degree of industrial safety and occupational health for our employees.

Headed by Michael Staude, MD, ZAUS has received several awards for its management of health and safety, also profiting other institutions in the region around Bad Oeynhausen. Three occupational physicians and three safety specialists from ZAUS look after more than 13,000 employees in 50 institutions and firms of all shapes and sizes.

The center has grown to become one of the most important service centers of its kind in East Westphalia-Lippe.

Research and teaching at the HDZ NRW

Always on the lookout: how can we treat our patients even more successfully?

Within our Center for Clinical Research and Development, each one of our four Clinics has its own divisions and laboratories for medical research. Our scientific employees function as an interface between basic research and its practical applicability – always on the lookout for new information which might improve our patient care. In this quest we also collaborate with external institutes and hospitals.

In medical research, ethical issues often play a major role. An ethics commission from the Faculty of Medicine at the Ruhr-University of Bochum therefore passes all studies before they can begin. The Clinic for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery primarily conducts research into mechanical circulatory support, as well as coronary, transplantation and valve surgery. Its focus is basic and applied research in the fields of cardiovascular biotechnology, molecular biotechnology, stem cell research and tissue engineering.

The Clinic for Cardiology is leading in the research of cardiac ultrastructure and cardiogenetics. It conducts research into the treatment of coronary artery disease (CAD) and

inflammatory heart diseases, drug treatment for early forms of arteriosclerosis, as well as the foundations of molecular and genetic diagnostics and the therapy of cardiac and vascular diseases.

In addition, the Clinic participates in numerous national and international studies.

Acquiring knowledge – sharing knowledge

Many of the patients treated in our Center for Congenital Heart Defects profit directly from research performed at the HDZ NRW: ongoing clinical-methodical studies lead to new and improved surgical techniques for patients with congenital heart defects, as well as appropriate postoperative care.



Always in search of the best possible treatment for our patients.



We conduct research to help our patients even further in the future.

What matters to us: knowledge transfer

As a university hospital of the Ruhr-University of Bochum, we make a significant contribution to research and teaching.

Our physicians hold lectures and seminars in order to share their knowledge with the next generation of medics. Exchange of experience at the highest specialist level is our goal.

We thus impart our findings and knowledge at regular symposia, as well as national and international congresses: a transfer of expertise which benefits the lives of all our patients.

Diabetological research has long been more than just research into sugar metabolism, with the secondary diseases of diabetes mellitus increasing in significance all the time. With a holistic approach to treatment and a desire to treat patients according to the latest standards at all times, the Diabetes Center at the HDZ NRW conducts basic research, initiates its own studies and participates as a test center in multicentric clinical studies.

The HDZ NRW attaches great importance to passing on its latest research findings to its own employees, as well as physicians from outside, at regular further training events. The high acceptance of our HDZ academy and physician-patient seminars has made the HDZ NRW an important platform for further training and exchange of information at a specialist level, offering clarification, advice and support.



Valued in Germany and across the world



-  Germany
-  Japan
-  USA
-  China
-  Kazakhstan
-  Austria
-  France
-  Hungary
-  Romania

Local and regional responsibility

Both nationally and internationally, the HDZ NRW is a leading center of competence for cardiac, metabolic and circulatory diseases.

We are very proud of our 2,200 employees individually, as well as collectively, with this number making us one of the largest employers in the town of Bad Oeynhausen. We do everything in our power to live up to the responsibility we have, not only towards our patients, but also towards Bad Oeynhausen and the surrounding

region. We are proud of the fact that we have been able to recruit internationally renowned experts for the posts of CEO and Medical Director, as well as to manage our Institutes, and equally proud that all our wards and departments boast a high level of medical expertise and a passionate commitment to the patients.

From trainees to management, we vow never to be wholly satisfied with what we have achieved, but to attempt further improvement on a daily basis.

Networked with the best – for the good of our patients

Palpably improving the quality of life of heart and diabetes patients is an aim which can only be fulfilled if we are continually open to new approaches and impulses from the best physicians and most renowned experts – wherever they may be.

For years we have therefore been fostering close relations to top universities across the globe (see map), for example in the USA, Japan, France, Hungary, Austria and Romania.

At the same time, we ensure that we pass on our own findings from scientific research and practical application to the next generation of medics, in line with our teaching assignment as part of the Ruhr-University of Bochum, and specifically invite communication with the physicians referring patients to us. Their specialist expertise and knowledge of the patients constitute another vital component if we are to arrive at the best possible treatment.



KTQ certification of transparency and quality in healthcare



Seal of quality for exemplary protection against multi-resistant organisms (MRO)



DDG certification as a treatment center for type I and type II diabetics



European Hypertensive League Center of Excellence for the diagnosis and treatment of hypertensive diseases



Acclaimed in the largest national evaluation of hospitals, conducted by Focus

A seal of approval speaks volumes.

Top quality: signed and sealed

In order to be successful in the long term, performance at the HDZ NRW needs to undergo regular testing. In addition to internal assessments, it is extremely important that we have our quality evaluated by independent third parties in transpa-

rent processes. In this context we have selected one of the most meaningful seals of approval in existence today: the KTQ certificate for cooperation, transparency and quality. In compliance with strict requirements, this seal certifies not only the structures and processes in place at the HDZ NRW, but also the orientation of our hospital to patients and staff.

In addition to the KTQ seal, which has to be re-awarded at regular intervals, the HDZ NRW is committed to a total of 12 firmly established certification processes. They include, for example, the MRSA Quality Seal, the DDG certificate for treatment of type I and type II diabetics, as well as a number of certificates in accordance with DIN ISO for the areas laboratory, pharmacy and nutrition.

The HDZ NRW has also received ecological awards for integrating environmental technologies. Our Clinics have received awards for their quality in many different areas. One example is our cardiolog-ical Chest Pain Unit.

The HDZ NRW: more than just a hospital



Sports cardiologists at the HDZ NRW accompany top German sportsmen and women on their path to excellence

A winning combination – the HDZ NRW supports German sport at the highest level

Numerous top sportsmen and women rely on the competence of the sports cardiologists at the HDZ NRW for a diagnosis of their physical performance. The examination is based on a comprehensive health check, in which the cardiologists examine organ functions, exclude possible infections and estimate cardiovascular risk. The pumping function of the heart, as well as the function of the heart valves, are evaluated in an echocardiographic examination. Our experts then proceed to determine the stamina of the athlete on the basis of various parameters, such as oxygen uptake or carbon dioxide output, heart rate and lactate level.

These results form the foundations for recommendations which are then drawn up for the athletes and their coach. The sports cardiologists at the HDZ NRW cooperate with the German handball association – examining the German national team prior to major tournaments, for example. Three clubs in the German handball league, as well as the German national decathlon team, are all monitored regularly by the sports cardiologists at the HDZ NRW. Non-professional athletes can also take advantage of the sports cardiological unit at the HDZ NRW, which participates in the initiatives "Sport mit Herz" (sports with a heart) and "Unternehmen mit Herz" (companies with a heart).

Cooperations with the HDZ NRW sports cardiological unit:



We think outside the box

Top-level medicine, outstanding medical research and compassionate care for our patients – the HDZ NRW stands for all these things. And yet, despite existing high levels of competence, we are always searching beyond our four walls for new ideas and inspirations to continually improve our

work and make a stay in our hospital as pleasant as possible for patients and their next of kin.

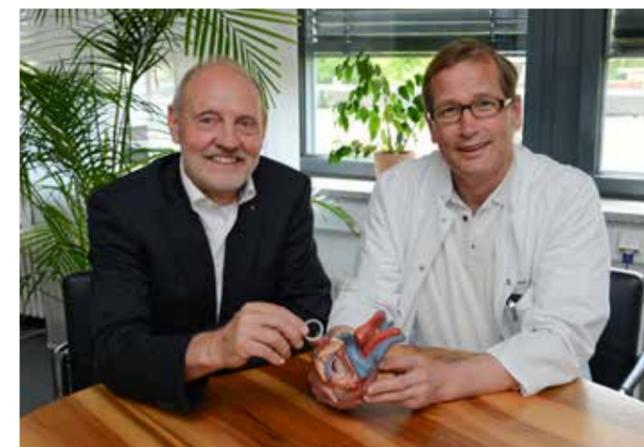
We inform our patients and other interested parties about what is new at the HDZ NRW: for example special events, new forms of treatment or new tips for dealing with cardiac and metabolic diseases.



Exhibitions and concerts

Our art forum unites medicine and culture. We have been exhibiting the work of contemporary artists, from the local to those of international renown, since 1993. In our expansive corridors and upstairs gallery, patients, staff and visitors can enjoy the artwork – which can also become a talking point or open up whole new ways of looking at life.

A synopsis of the current exhibition is available on our website.



Development association and partnerships

The "Förderverein Herz- und Diabeteszentrum NRW e.V." (development association) accepts all incoming donations and channels them towards direct improvement of patient care. The members of the board are Prof. Dr. Otto Foit, Bernhard Silaschi and Hans-Jürgen Nolting.

The HDZ NRW also participates in numerous cooperations and partnerships with national and international hospitals and institutes.



A place of silence

Our place of silence is an oasis of calm away from the hectic routines of the hospital. Patients, family members and visitors can come here and spend time in prayer, meditation or restful contemplation. It is open to members of all religious faiths and beliefs.

How to find us

By car

Take the A2 (Hannover/Dortmund) or A30 (from Osnabrück) until the exit marked Bad Oeynhausen and then follow the signs to the Herz- und Diabeteszentrum NRW.

By train

Good rail links exist to and from Bad Oeynhausen main station.

By plane

Good flight connections exist to and from several airports. The three closest are: Hannover, Paderborn-Lippstadt and Münster-Osnabrück.



How to contact our Clinics

Clinic for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery

Prof. Jan Gummert, MD

Personal Assistant Tel. +49 5731/97-1331

Outpatients Tel. +49 5731/97-1332

Clinic for Cardiology

Prof. Dieter Horstkotte, MD

Call Center Tel. +49 5731/97-3311

Center for Congenital Heart Defect

Prof. Deniz Kececioglu, MD (r.) and

Dr. Eugen Sandica

Outpatients Tel. + 49 5731/97-1143

Diabetes Center

Prof. Diethelm Tschöpe, MD, Dr. h.c.

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