

## MEDICAL TRAVEL QUALITY ALLIANCE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Caroline Bodanis, *caroline@mtqua.org* Telephone (USA) +1 602-635-4664

## MTQUA Announces the 2018 Top 10 World's Best Hospitals for Medical Tourists<sup>TM</sup>

March 7, 2018 – Berlin – Asklepios Hospital in Hamburg is the world's top hospital for medical tourists according to medical tourism industry leader Medical Travel Quality Alliance (MTQUA).

Seven of the Top 10 hospitals are in Asia or the Middle East, and specialize in cardiac surgery, cancer treatment, hip or knee replacement, and treatment for gynecological and other major illnesses. Clemenceau Medical Center, Beirut, Specialty Hospital, Amman, and Anadolu Medical Center, Istanbul, are ranked 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> on the Top 10. The highest ranked Asian hospital, in 5<sup>th</sup> place, is Samitivej Hospital, Bangkok.

"Asklepios Klinik Barmbek is a superb hospital, recognized in Germany and around the world for its excellence in medical treatment, and today it's again recognized by MTQUA for the outstanding care services and support it gives to international patients and medical travelers," said Julie Munro, president of MTQUA, in making the announcement at ITB Berlin, the world's largest travel trade fair.

Seven of the Top 10 hospitals are in Asia or the Middle East, since most medical travelers come from African, C.I.S. and Asian countries and travel to hospitals in Asia and the Middle East for heart surgery, cancer treatment, hip or knee replacement, and treatment for gynecological and other major illnesses. Clemenceau Medical Center, Beirut, Specialty Hospital, Amman, and Anadolu Medical Center, Istanbul, are ranked  $2^{nd}$ ,  $3^{rd}$  and  $4^{th}$  on the Top 10.



The highest ranked Asian hospital, in 5<sup>th</sup> place, is Samitivej Hospital, Bangkok. Carolina Medical Center, a specialty sports and orthopedic hospital in Warsaw, is the only new hospital to make the Top 10 list, at number 10, and is the only other European hospital. The full list and hospital profiles are found at *https://WorldsBestHospitals.net* 

Patients who travel to another country for medical treatment cannot be treated as ordinary patients. They need more and different services and support, for example, in communicating with doctors, nurses and care support workers. They can get a wrong diagnosis, wrong treatment for their disease, inappropriate medication, and a hospital or doctor bill that is much higher than for a local patient with the same treatment.

The hospitals and clinics on the World's Best Hospitals list give medical tourists the best results for the best price and with the best support and care. Then, when they return home after treatment, they can go about their daily lives without worry that they might have a complication or an infection, discover a breach of confidential medical information, or get an unexpected charge for services on their credit card.

"Each year, this Top 10 list shows how the medical tourism industry is changing," said Ms. Munro. "More hospitals in more countries are competing for international patients. This kind of competition benefits the medical traveler by bringing a focus on international standards and better quality."

MTQUA reviews hospitals in Asia, Middle East, Europe and the Americas for excellence in treating and caring for medical tourists from around the world. Medical tourists come from all countries and travel around the world to get the best medical attention they can afford. Some may want to get treatment in a 5-star environment from 5-star doctors; others may care less about the environment but want 5-star treatment and 5-star care appropriate to their needs.

The MTQUA team conducts site visits and selects hospitals based on the quality of medical treatment and on ten non-clinical factors including quality of care, communications, marketing, value for money, cultural and social sensitivity, privacy, safety, and leadership support of medical tourism.

*Medical Travel Quality Alliance (MTQUA, <u>https://www.mtqua.org</u>), an independent international organization founded in 2009 in the U.S. to promote the special safety and quality needs in treatment and care of medical tourists, publishes the Top 10 World's Best Hospitals For Medical Tourists<sup>TM</sup> (<u>https://WorldsBestHospitals.net</u>) and Best Practices in Medical Tourism. Medical tourism certification from MTQUA is the only global certification program for hospitals, clinics, agencies, and related services and providers.* 

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