

Orientation Paper

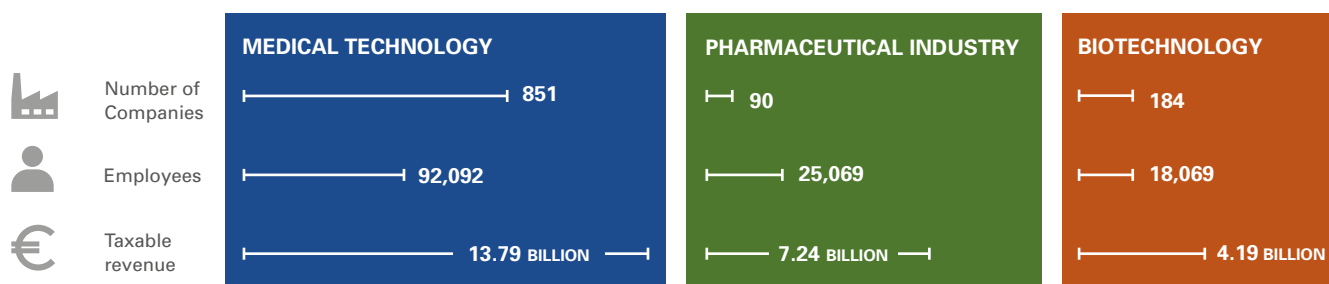
of Minister Dr. Nicole Hoffmeister-Kraut | 3RD DECEMBER 2020

“Healthcare industry in the Covid-19 pandemic: How to use the full potential of Europe’s healthcare industry”

-
- I. Strengths of the Healthcare Industry in Baden-Württemberg / Facts and Figures
 - II. The Baden-Württemberg path: “Forum Gesundheitsstandort”
 - III. Possible ways to improve the potential of Europe – theses for discussion
-

I. STRENGTHS OF THE HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY IN BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG / FACTS AND FIGURES

The healthcare industry includes businesses from the areas of medical technology, pharmaceutical industry and biotechnology. Facts and figures about Baden-Württemberg:



- Baden-Württemberg is the number one healthcare industry location in Germany (based on the number of companies).
- More than 1,100 companies involved in research, development and/or production.
- The gross value added (GVA) of the Baden-Württemberg healthcare industry is 17.8 billion euro (data of 2018).
- The healthcare industry is the innovative growth driver of the healthcare sector. The healthcare sector in Baden-Württemberg makes above average investments in R&D and Baden-Württemberg is the region with the strongest innovative capacity in the European Union.

- Baden-Württemberg is an attractive location for start-ups. Approximately 181 healthcare industry start-ups were founded in Baden-Württemberg between 2010 and 9/2020 (www.startupbw.de).
- In addition, Baden-Württemberg offers a diverse and powerful research landscape in the healthcare sector with five university hospitals, eight universities, 14 universities of applied sciences and several prestigious non-university research institutions like the German Cancer Research Center or the European Molecular Biology Laboratory.

II. THE BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG PATH:

The state's flagship project „Forum Gesundheitsstandort Baden-Württemberg“ (in short GSBW; www.forum-gesundheitsstandort-bw.de) started in July 2018. In a strategic process, supported by the state government and relevant stakeholders, actions are developed and implemented to grow the state's healthcare location to the highest possible level.

Meanwhile, about 500 experts from science, industry, healthcare and associated organizations are active in the Forum GSBW. The State Ministry, the Ministry of Science, Research and the Arts, the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Labour and Housing and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Integration govern the project. BIOPRO is the coordinating office.

III. POSSIBLE WAYS TO IMPROVE THE POTENTIAL OF EUROPE – THESES UP FOR DISCUSSION

1. **EU regulatory frameworks promote innovation in medtech.**

Innovation in medtech ensures high-quality healthcare in Europe. Industry and patient stakeholder are worried about the requirements of the implementation of EU legislation such as MDR, IVDR and the use of electronic instructions (e-IFU) for medical devices. How can EU legislation ensure patient safety as well as innovative devices?

2. **European legislation ensures a competitive European pharmaceuticals industry.**

To make the most of Europe's potential EU legislation has to provide the necessary legal framework:

a. *Intellectual property*

Research-intensive sectors require reliable intellectual property law. Only a robust regime of intellectual property rights assures incentives for investments in research and development.

b. *Consistent implementation of EU regulations*

Markets for products that are subject to strict consumer protection provisions can function only, if these rules are implemented consistently. How can EU legislation - such as the legislation on health claims - be fully implemented as quickly as possible?

3. **Europe makes the most of its data – even in the healthcare industry.**

The potential of data in healthcare and healthcare industry is undisputed. The attractiveness of Europe as location for the healthcare industry, therefore, highly depends on the availability of data generated in European health services. This also means that companies need access to data and national borders should not lead to fragmentation. How can the EU support this process?