Spotlight on the MHH
The Hannover Medical School (Medizinische Hochschule Hannover, MHH) is one of Germany’s leading universities in research, patient care and teaching. With its concentrated support of specialised research areas, it is now one of the finest university clinics in the country.

The outstanding research conducted here has been clearly recognised within the framework of the Excellence Initiative supported by the federal and state governments. The MHH will receive more than 40 million euros funding by 2011 as the nation’s best university clinic.

Excellence in teaching at the MHH is reflected in the fact that its graduate schools for the training of young scientists will also receive five million euros. The number of student applications is proof that the exemplary training programme of medicine is highly attractive.

The MHH is also known for its excellence in patient care: medical research of the highest quality is closely linked with the latest diagnostic procedures and therapies.

The underlying foundation of this success is the concept of integration realized at the MHH. Employees in patient care, research, teaching and administration work hand in hand on campus under the direction of the three members of the Presidium of the MHH, Germany’s only institution of higher education devoted exclusively to medicine.
The Clinic

Every year, more than 54,000 inpatients and well 310,000 outpatients are treated at the MHH, which provides the full range of treatment and care of the highest quality. In no other university clinic in Germany are patients with such severe conditions treated as they are in the 18 medical centres and 75 departments on the MHH campus. The MHH is also a pioneer in transplant medicine and is one of the world’s leading transplant centres. 400 to 500 organ transplants are performed yearly, more than anywhere else in Germany. The MHH is the world’s leader in lung transplants. In addition, 140 to 170 bone marrow and blood stem cell transplants are handled every year. Moreover, the MHH has a leading position in cochlear implants, electronic inner ear stimulating devices. To date 5,000 patients (500 a year) have been fitted with one of these devices, enabling them to hear again – or for the first time.

Interdisciplinary cooperation is the major aim of the MHH: In the Centre for Tumour, Breast, Otological and Rheumatic Disease and in the interdisciplinary Centre for Facial Malformations, specialists from various departments work together while also maintaining close contact to practising physicians and rehab facilities. This type of integrated care in cooperation with external partners is becoming more and more important. The goal is clear: to provide every patient optimal treatment and care.
Inpatients: 54,628
Outpatients: 307,866
Emergencies: 33,638
Average stay in hospital: 8,21
Case mix index: 1.80
Wards: 90
Statutory number of beds: 1,444
Organ transplants: 418, including
- 187 kidney, including 7 pancreatic
- 92 liver
- 105 lung, including 9 heart-lung
- 34 heart transplants
Bone marrow transplants: 139
Cochlear implants: 470

All figures for 2009
Major Areas of Clinical Specialisation

- Transplant Medicine
- Infection Medicine and Immunology
- Cardiac and Vascular Medicine
- Hearing Systems (cochlear implants)
- Laryngology, Rhinology and Otology
- Gastroenterology, Hepatology
- Oncology (cancer therapy for children and adults)
- Pneumology
- Neurology and Neurosurgery
- Emergency Surgery and Orthopaedics
- Plastic, Hand and Reconstructive Surgery, including a burn unit
- Urology
- Obstetrics, Neonatal Medicine and Gynaecology
- Ophthalmology
- Oral, Orthodontic and Maxillofacial Surgery
- Dentistry
The MHH is also a leader in research, as is clear from the number of interdisciplinary projects and the volume of funding acquired: in 2008, this amounted to 75.5 million euro, which is the highest rate per professor in Germany. This success was made possible by the more than 1,200 scientists and nearly 30,000 square meters of laboratory space at the MHH. Among the research institutions at the MHH are the Cluster of Excellence REBIRTH for regenerative medicine, the Integrated Research and Treatment Centre Transplantion (IFB-Tx), six DFG Collaborative Research Centres (SFB), nine DFG Research Groups, three Research Training Groups (GKs) — two European GKs — and three Federal Ministry for Education and Research Competence Networks for Rheumatic Diseases, Hepatitis and Pneumonias; a Competence Centre for Cardiovascular Implants; and hundreds of other research projects. The Excellence Initiative of the federal and state governments recognized the vast research potential present in the capital city of Lower Saxony by providing start-up funding through 2011. The Cluster of Excellence REBIRTH for Regenerative Medicine is based on the work of outstanding research groups, particularly those dedicated to stem cell research and culturing of regenerative heart, lung, liver and blood tissue. In 2008, more than 110 scientists started working in a new facility, the Hans Borst Research Centre for Heart and Stem Cell Research, which is located directly next to the Transplant Research Centre.

With its Integrated Research and Treatment Centre Transplantion (IFB-Tx) the MHH has been strengthened in its role as the leading institution for transplant research, which, with up to 50 million euro funding since 2007, has made possible more rapid clinical application of research results.

The MHH is also a leader in the research of infection and immunology, cooperating with the Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research in Braunschweig. TWINCORE, a new research facility, was established directly adjacent to the MHH campus. Outstanding basic research by scientists from Braunschweig in combination with the excellent clinical and basic research at the MHH will guarantee the success of this facility, which is also devoted to the rapid transfer of research results to clinical applications.
Major Areas of Research

– Infection, Immunity and Inflammation
– Transplantation and Stem-Cell-Research
– Biomedical Engineering and Implants

Staff (full-time): 7,039,6
– medical services: 1,221.1
– research: 354.3
– grant funded positions: 804.8

Total external funding: 81,4 Millionen Euro

All figures for 2009
Study Programmes at MHH

More than 3,000 young people are currently enrolled at the MHH: in medicine or dentistry as undergraduates or in a doctoral or other advanced degree programme. In the winter semester 2005/2006, a new medical curriculum was established: “HannibaL”, an acronym for the Hannover Medical School’s integrated, professionally oriented, adaptive course of study. All coursework focuses on practical application. From the very first week, students are in direct contact with patients. Each year, three ten-week modules covering the same subject matter are offered in parallel (from October to December, January to March, and April to July). The year’s 270 students are assigned to three groups, so that only 90 are enrolled in a module at a given time. The impulse and essential ideas for this new curriculum were promoted by committed students and teachers of the committee for study affairs (chairman Professor Hermann Haller).

In order to recruit and keep the best young scientists, it is necessary to offer them something special. Already in 2003, the MHH founded its Hannover Biomedical Research School (HBRS). This graduate school represents an “umbrella organization” for existing and future structured postgraduate programmes – mainly PhD programmes and Research Training Groups (GKs). It co-ordinates teaching and ensures excellent training in high quality research laboratories, furthers motivation, and actively encourages integration and interdisciplinary exchange between students and young researchers from both medical and life science backgrounds.

A joint HBRS curriculum was established in 2004, and the excellent quality of the various training programmes was confirmed in 2005, when the DAAD acclaimed the MHH’s MD/PhD programme Molecular Medicine as “Best-practise programme”. In addition, HBRS was very successful in the national Excellence Initiative and will receive financial support through to 2011 by the federal and state governments.

In 2006, the MHH was the first German school of medicine to establish the so called “patients’ university”. Structured teaching activities convey current scientific knowledge and research results not only to specialists and experts, but also to the general public.
Current enrolment: 3.043

Courses of study:

Human Medicine
Dentistry
Biology
Biochemistry
Public Health
Master of Biomedicine
Hannover Biomedical Research School:
– MD/PhD Programme Molecular Medicine
– PhD Programme Infection Biology
– PhD Programme Regenerative Sciences
– StrucMed – structured training for doctoral candidates

1 German Research Foundation (DFG) Research Training Groups (GKs)
2 European DFG GKs

1 In cooperation with the Leibniz University Hannover and the University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover, Foundation
2 Supplemental course of study

All figures for 2009
Occupational Training

The MHH provides occupational training for nearly 500 young people in its schools of healthcare professions:

– School of Patient Care and Paediatric Care
– School of Nutrition Assistants
– School of Logopaediatrics
– School of Medical Laboratory Technology
– School of Medical Radiology Technology

Furthermore, up to 60 apprentices receive training at the MHH to learn a wide range of trades regulated by the medical association, such as physician’s assistant, medical data specialist, animal handler, dental technician and more.
The MHH is exceptionally committed to the continuing education of physicians. Today’s good medical practice requires more of physicians than the ability to examine patients, prescribe drugs and perform operations. It is becoming increasingly important that hospitals and medical practices work economically. The Hannover School of Health Management Ltd. (HSHM) is an independent unit founded by the MHH that offers a modular training programme including an MBA in cooperation with the Universities of Applied Sciences in Hannover and Neu-Ulm, and the advances in knowledge taught at the HSHM are developed further and applied at the MHH.
The MHH is internationally renowned for excellence in patient care, research and teaching. There is great demand by students, physicians and scientists from all over the world to come to Hannover for study, work and research. International cooperative agreements and networks are constantly being expanded with other universities and clinics worldwide. Furthermore, the MHH organises internships and foreign study semesters for its students. People from more than 40 countries study, work and do research at the MHH, which is thus one of the most international workplaces in the capital of Lower Saxony.
Unity in what is necessary, 
Liberty in case of doubt, 
Charity in all things.

Unitas in necessariis 
Libertas in dubiis 
Cariats in omnibus

Academic mission statement of the 
Hannover Medical School
The campus of the MHH in Hannover-Gross Buchholz covers 400,000 square meters – more than 50 football fields. In the centre of the campus is the main Clinic, surrounded by the Clinics for Paediatrics, Gynaecology, Oral and Dental Medicine, the Transplant Research Centre, the Hans Borst Centre and other research and teaching facilities, the library, residential and administrative buildings, and sports facilities. The Department of Dermatology and Venerology is temporarily housed in the Clinic for Dermatology in Hannover-Linden, while the Department of Orthopaedics is permanently located in the Annastift hospital.
In order to attract and keep the best scientists and physicians, the workplace must provide services for its employees and their families. In 2005, the MHH underwent the audit by the Hertie Foundation “Family Friendly University” that confirmed the quality of its family-orientated services, and was successfully re-audited in 2008.

The MHH is one of the best providers of childcare arrangements among medical institutions in Germany, with places for 224 boys and girls between the ages of eight months and ten years, and this service is constantly being expanded. Furthermore, special activities are provided during national school holidays. Childminding is also available in emergency situations.

The MHH Mentoring Programme for Women was established in 2004 in order to help women structure and plan their scientific careers.