



# INTRODUCING THE BZH\*

DEUTSCHES BERATUNGSZENTRUM FÜR HYGIENE

## OUR OBJECTIVES

Quality improvement and legal security at reliable costs through modern Infection prevention and control management for all healthcare facilities

Every hospital, rehabilitation clinic, outpatient surgery or nursing home - all healthcare facilities are facing new challenges due to changes in the patient population as well as demographic processes. In addition, new technical procedures enable modern treatment options and new requirements are emerging. Expanded legal regulations aim to curb the further increase of resistant bacteria and ensure the required quality standards in patient care in all healthcare facilities. The SARS-CoV-2 pandemic has clearly demonstrated how vulnerable even a highly modern and well-functioning healthcare system can be.

In particular, the legislator declared infection prevention and the reduction of antibiotic consumption a major goal for the coming years. With the reform of the Federal Infection Protection Act (Infektionsschutzgesetz), the state medical Infection prevention and control ordinances (Landeshygieneverordnungen) and the Patients' Rights Act (Patientenrechtegesetz), clear legal requirements and standards have been adopted to ensure the implementation of modern Infection Prevention and Control practices throughout the country by means of structural requirements and staffing adapted to the facilities.

Today, professional infection prevention and control are more than ever in the focus of politics and public perception. The media are very interested in hygiene problems and are reporting more and more frequently on infectious disease topics. The public demands transparency and consistent adherence on the part of healthcare facilities in implementing Infection prevention and control requirements. All healthcare facilities must establish a legally compliant, evidence-based Infection prevention and control structure that meets international standards and implement infection prevention that protects both patients and employees from avoidable infections.

However, the Fifth Social Code (SGB V) also requires service providers to deliver medical care economically. Consequently, facilities must meet these strategic challenges in a cost-efficient manner.

The BZH supports you with expertise in all Infection prevention and control issues with pragmatic, financially manageable concepts adapted to the respective needs. The highly qualified, experienced employees of the BZH provide on-site support to each facility individually and in line with requirements. The recommendations of the Commission for Hospital Hygiene and Infection Prevention (KRINKO) at the Robert Koch-Institute (RKI) as well as evidence-based findings from studies are essential components of the consulting process. In addition, the complete scientifically based know-how of the BZH with its specialist experts is available.

## A CUSTOMIZED INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL CONCEPT

We offer you and your facility a customized, appropriate and safe Infection prevention and control concept based on current requirements and scientific findings. You benefit from fast, reliable and cost-efficient problem solving for all hygiene and infection prevention issues.



# BZH-TEAM

Interdisciplinary and independent

\*THE GERMAN ADVISORY CENTRE FOR INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (BZH)  
Expertise, experience and independence

Since its foundation more than 20 years ago at the Institute for Environmental Medicine and Hospital Hygiene at the University Hospital Freiburg by Prof. Dr. med. Franz Daschner, the DEUTSCHE BERATUNGSZENTRUM FÜR HYGIENE (BZH) has been regarded as a guarantor for reliable, goal-oriented and practice-proven Infection prevention and control consulting. The focus is on safe, practice-oriented as well as individually oriented advice and support for the respective facility. A large number of facilities throughout the German-speaking world benefit from the competence of the BZH. With numerous nationwide branch offices, we offer local, efficient support.

With its interdisciplinary team of hospital epidemiologists, infection control practitioners, microbiologists, natural scientists and highly qualified multidisciplinary physicians, the BZH is one of the largest institutes for Infection prevention and control in Europe.

The BZH covers the entire spectrum of hospital hygiene, infection prevention, antibiotic stewardship as well as medical device safety. Even large hospital associations as well as other companies around the healthcare sector trust the leading expertise of the BZH. Particularly when demand-adapted solutions based on a competent, scientifically sound and future-proof implementation of current hygiene standards are desired.

Due to the very broad field of activity, the great experience and scientific orientation of Infection prevention and control consultation and care, the Chamber of physicians Medical Board has granted the BZH full specialist training authorization in the subject of Infection prevention and control and environmental medicine.

The BZH is certified according to ISO 9001:2015.



## OUR CLIENTS

As diverse as medicine itself

Our clients appreciate the variety of our individual consulting services.

The BZH focuses on advising various institutions throughout the health care system.

Our expertise and services are also used by public institutions, industry and service companies:

- acute care hospitals
- rehabilitation and specialist clinics
- Inpatient care facilities
- practice consultation in Infection prevention and control and care on an outpatient basis
- office-based and outpatient surgical centers as well as conservative medical practices of all disciplines
- public health authorities
- other facilities, e.g. canteen kitchens, food manufacturers, medical device manufacturers



BZH image film  
(please scan QR code to view)



Film of the  
Freiburger Hygiene Congress  
(please scan QR code to view)

# BZH-QUALIFICATION

Your professional advice

## THE INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL TEAM OF THE BZH

Focused competence to the power of two

We counter the increasing shortage of specialists in the field of hygiene and infection prevention and offer reliable advice from hospital epidemiologists and infection control practitioners.

Our clients benefit from the broad expertise and extensive experience of an interdisciplinary faculty team of specialized experts at BZH.

Clinically experienced physicians and specialized natural scientists ensure scientifically sound, everyday advice and problem-solving at the highest level.

With our state-licensed infection control practitioners, we can provide every facility with a strong team for efficient and beneficial Infection prevention and control consultation and employee training.

## YOUR ADVANTAGES

Customized concepts

The recommendations of the BZH are based on German and European guidelines and scientifically recognized international recommendations. Founded on evidence-based hygiene standards and the recommendations of the Commission for Hospital Hygiene and Infection Prevention (KRINKO) at the Robert Koch-Institute (RKI), you will receive a hygiene concept individually tailored to your wishes and respective needs.

Each institution can use our consulting and support services to supplement its own resources and thus close its own gaps in a customized manner. BZH provides you with the necessary know-how to achieve optimal results for your facility in terms of quality and economy with maximum cost efficiency.

We offer permanent solutions as well as temporary support - according to your needs.



## SIGNIFICANT ADVANTAGES

- Supporting and supplementing the lack of in-house specialist resources (hospital epidemiologists, infection control practitioners)
- Continuous support through fixed contact persons
- High safety for patients, residents and employees
- Achieving optimal medical/nursing outcomes through modern evidence-based hygiene management and targeted infection prevention
- Cost optimization through reduction of operating costs and avoidance of unnecessary investments
- Statutory financial support for contractually agreed external consultations by specialized physicians in accordance with § 4 Para. 9 No. 3 Hospital Remuneration Act (KHEntgG) until 2026
- Short reaction times as well as practical and fast problem solutions
- Possibility to implement legal requirements and avoid risks
- Support from a highly specialized, interdisciplinary team of experts
- No gaps in supply due to vacation or illness

# BZH-COMPETENCIES

Our services

## BZH-INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL CONSULTING

Specialist level for each facility

Demographic change and escalating morbidity require complex therapeutic approaches in addition to more invasive diagnostics. The increasing development of antibiotic resistance of many microorganisms (MRSA, ESBL, MRGN, VRE) as well as supply shortages of important antibiotic drugs increase the complexity in determining the appropriate medical treatment. At the same time, social expectations of practitioners are increasing and are being regulated in a legally binding manner by growing legal requirements (in Germany e.g. Infection Protection Act). In the event of violations of applicable hygiene regulations, infections occurring as a result of medical or nursing treatment are judged by the courts to be fully controllable risks. For the implementation of suitable infection prevention measures, sound knowledge of the transmission mechanisms is required.

Likewise, expert advice is required to interpret the physician's or hospital operator's area of responsibility. The Infection Protection Act therefore expressly prescribes cooperation with a hospital hygienist. In 2009 and 2016, the KRINKO issued detailed recommendations on the capacity planning of the Infection Control Experts staff.

The BZH looks after its clients with a wide network of branch offices and offers need-based and appropriate support on the spot.

The independent consulting ensures a resource-saving, up-to-date and cost-effective hospital hygiene. The concepts, which are tailored to the respective facility, are introduced, accompanied and supervised by the qualified staff of the BZH. The personal advice and support provided by the BZH helps you to reduce the risk of infection for patients and employees, to make a significant contribution to quality assurance and at the same time to realize synergies and potential savings.

## BZH-INFECTION CONTROL PRACTITIONERS

Needs-based care at reasonable costs

The practical implementation of successful infection prevention in all healthcare facilities requires the continuous deployment of highly qualified and experienced hygiene experts on site.

Consultation by the experts in Infection Prevention of the BZH offers acute hospitals, rehabilitation clinics, geriatric care facilities, conservative medical practices and medical care as well as outpatient surgery centers a high level of expertise and security. With maximum flexibility, you can also exploit the potential of effective infection prevention at short notice, with increased medical and nursing care quality, adapted to your needs with maximum economic efficiency. The BZH offers the solution you need both for permanent care of your facility and for rapid temporary support in the event of acute bottlenecks or problems.

## BZH-FACILITY PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION

Field-proven expertise

Permanent Change is the only constant in today's hospital.

In the course of the rapid developments and dynamics in the health service, new buildings, extensions and conversions are part of the everyday life of a hospital, clinic or practice.

The expert, individual building hygiene advice provided by the experienced BZH building hygiene team already takes into account all aspects relevant to hospital hygiene during the planning phase in order to optimize functional processes and avoid bad investments. Hospital hygiene regulations oblige the sponsors of healthcare facilities to have building projects assessed by a hospital hygiene specialist before applying for a building permit or before construction work is carried out.

In all phases of a construction project, we support you with specialized, practical solutions based on the latest scientific findings.

# BZH-EXPERTISE

Up to date and reliable

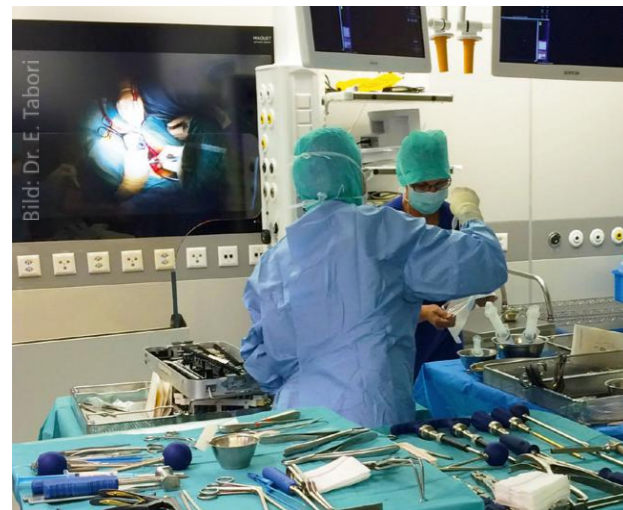
## BZH-PRACTICE- INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Practice consulting in Infection prevention and control for outpatient surgery centers and conservative medical practices.

In case of outpatient treatment as well as specialist and GP patient care, the implementation of recognized Infection prevention and control standards is expected and their implementation is checked. In this context, not only the presentation of an Infection prevention plan tailored in detail to the respective facility as well as cleaning and disinfection plans adapted to requirements are expected. The possibility of expert advice and, if necessary, support is organized in case of need.

Especially in the field of outpatient operating centers and office based surgical practices, the need for competent advice from qualified specialists in Infection prevention and control has been increasing for years.

The BZH advises on the basis of the circumstances and needs of an institution and draws up individually adapted, practical hygiene concepts based on the recommendations of the Commission for Hospital Hygiene and Infection Prevention (KRINKO) at the Robert Koch-Institute (RKI), relevant regulations (Infection Protection Act etc.). However, support in dealing with authorities as well as the exploitation of savings potentials without compromising quality are also essential consulting goals. The safety and infection protection of your patients and employees are always in the focus of the consulting.



## BZH-ANTIBIOTIC-STEWARDSHIP-PROGRAM (ASP) INFECTION PREVENTION AT HIGH LEVEL Antibiotic management and antibiotic stewardship counselling

Antibiotics are among the most commonly prescribed drugs. Multi-resistant pathogens, increasing complication rates, prolonged hospital stays and high drug costs are just some of the undesirable "side effects" for healthcare facilities and their patients.

Antibiotic stewardship programs serve the optimal selection, dosage and duration of antimicrobial therapy in order to achieve the best possible success in the therapy and prophylaxis of infections. This should be done with as little "collateral damage" as possible in terms of toxicity and selection of multi-resistant pathogens.

The Antibiotic Stewardship Program (ASP) of the BZH supports its clients with concepts individually tailored to the local resistance situation and the patient population cared for, as well as continuous advice on antibiotic therapy. In this way, the ASP can work synergistically with modern Infection prevention and control in quality assurance in patient care. The aim is to reduce individual complication rates, prevent the spread of multi-resistant pathogens and shorten hospital stays with efficient use of resources.

# BZH-CONTINUOUS MEDICAL EDUCATION

Well-founded and efficient

## BZH-E-ACADEMY

E-learning: up-to-date learning independent of time and place

Knowledge and scientific findings have never grown as fast as they do today. At the same time, there is an enormous shortage of skilled workers. The working time of employees in the healthcare sector is accordingly precious. Modern approaches to continuing education are needed to overcome this dilemma.

The demand for sufficient training on hygiene-related issues has increased for both doctors and nurses, but also for medical auxiliaries with regard to medical device reprocessing and in the area of hospital kitchens as part of quality management. Further training must be proven. Classroom events alone cannot cover this need for further training and are often difficult or impossible to integrate into duty rosters.

Particularly during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the BZH-E-ACADEMY, which has been established for many years, was able to ensure the continuation of ongoing specialist training for employees and the communication of the latest findings in all areas.

With the e-learning module, the BZH-E-Academy offers, in addition to our academy service spectrum, a recognized system for online training of employees, independent of space and time. This enables a high quality of training with integrated personal success control through an interactive training system. At the same time, participants from clinics and practices experience maximum flexibility and freedom in their individual learning. The successful completion of the certified BZH-E-Academy courses is of course CME-accredited.



## BZH-ACADEMY

Knowledge ensures quality of care

Only well-trained and continuously educated employees are motivated and able to meet the requirements of modern Infection prevention and control and to develop it further. With its congresses, training courses and individual continuing education events, the BZH-Academy offers a wide range of continuing education opportunities. The focus is always on the latest developments and scientific findings in the fields of Infection prevention and control, infectious diseases and quality management.

The BZH courses provide a sound basis on these topics and bring participants up to date. All advanced trainings, courses and lectures are offered both in Freiburg and on request nationwide as well as in-house events.

With over 1,500 participants, the annual Freiburg Infectious Diseases and Infection prevention and control Congress is one of the largest continuing medical education events in the German-speaking area. Renowned hygiene experts from Germany and abroad present the latest findings in the beautiful ambience of the Freiburg Concert Hall, making the congress an internationally renowned highlight of this medical discipline.



BZH-ACADEMY

For further information visit  
[www.bzh-freiburg.de](http://www.bzh-freiburg.de)

