

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE PANCREATEKTOMIZED E. V. (AdP e. V.)
DER ARBEITSKREIS DER PANKREATEKTOMIERTEN E. V. (ADP e. V.)

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In 1976, the difficult and varied situations following pancreatic surgery gave those operated the idea to found an **Association of the Pancreatectomized** in Heidelberg, true to the motto "help by self help". From the beginning, doctors and dietitians agreed to cooperate. The purpose of the AdP is the promotion of health and rehabilitation of partially and totally pancreatectomized patients after cancer diseases as well as those suffering from other pancreatic diseases. By now, more than 15.500 people each year contract a pancreatic tumour. We estimate that each year in Germany, approx. 65.000 people develop chronic pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas).

Since 1979, the AdP has been a registered association in the course of its nearly 40 years long history, the AdP has developed, with the help of doctors from different fields, nutrition scientists, psychologists and social work experts, a well functioning system for helping pancreatic patients which has gained general recognition.

The AdP is a member of the patient advisory board of Deutsche Krebshilfe e. V. (German Cancer Aid), of the Deutscher Diabetiker Bund (German Diabetic Union), the Paritätischer Wohlfahrtsverband (Equal Welfare Association), the Gesellschaft für Rehabilitation bei Verdauungs- und Stoffwechselerkrankungen e. V. (Society for Rehabilitation in Cases of Digestive and Metabolic Diseases), the Deutscher Pankreasclub (German Pancreas Club) and the Gastro-Liga e. V. Financially, the AdP is extensively supported by German Cancer Aid.

The AdP itself has a scientific advisory council which provides AdP's management board and its 60 regional groups all over Germany with important, up-to-date medical information. Currently, There are 1.200 members organized in the AdP.

Among the items on our agenda are:

- Regular federal AdP-meetings with lectures, discussion groups and individual consultations
- Regular regional meetings and local doctor/patient meetings in cooperation with medical centers for pancreatic diseases
- A handbook of the AdP for its every member in the form of a loose-leaf-collection with annual updates
- Presently 60 regional groups in every federal state of Germany as local contact
- Experts on social law questions are available
- Members of the scientific advisory council are available for individual consultations
- Various information for supporting all persons affected with pancreatic disease is offered
- The AdP communicates current information via its website (www.adp-bonn.de) which also offers a discussion forum