

The eight articles of the Care Charta

» Article 1: Self-determination and helping people to help themselves

Every individual who requires help and care has the right to receive support to help them help themselves and to enable them to lead a life which is as self-determined and independent as possible.

» Article 2: Physical and mental integrity, freedom and safety

Every individual who requires help and care has the right to be protected against dangers to the body and soul.

» Article 3: Privacy

Every individual who requires help and care has the right to maintain and protect their privacy and personal space.

» Article 4: Care, support and treatment

Every individual who requires help and care has the right to receive care, support and treatment which is tailored to their personal requirements, is healthy and is provided by qualified individuals.

» Article 5: Information, advice and awareness

Every individual who requires help and care has the right to receive comprehensive information about options and services provided in the context of advice, support, care and treatment.

» Article 6: Communication, being valued and participation in society

Every individual who requires help and care has the right to be valued, communicate with other people and participate in society.

» Article 7: Religion, culture and world views

Every individual who requires help and care has the right to live their life in accordance with their culture and world views and to practise their religion.

» Article 8: Palliative care, dying and death

Every individual who requires help and care has the right to die with dignity.

Partners



The SPECTARIS “Hospital and care beds” specialist group

SPECTARIS is the German industry association for optics, photonics, analytical and medical technology, which is based in Berlin. The association represents 400 German high-tech companies, which predominantly tend to be medium-sized companies. In the SPECTARIS “Hospital and care facilities” specialist group, manufacturers of care beds, which operate in the fields of hospital, care home and domestic care work and supply beds to these facilities, as well as private customers, are organised.

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Ethical aspects in the development of care beds

Voluntary Declaration of Commitment by the manufacturers to the principles set out in the Care Charta



Ethical considerations in the field of care associated with the development of modern care beds

The care bed as the point of care taking the aspects of the Care Charta into consideration

Due to the progressive aging of society, an increasing number of people will be reliant on (care) aids in the future.

Well over three quarters of individuals who require care, approximately around 2.6 million, currently receive care in their own homes and around a quarter receive care in inpatient facilities.

Regardless of where the care is provided, the majority of them are reliant on a care bed sooner or later.

As the point of care, the care bed often becomes the focal point of the care provision. It often represents the basis of the last personal living space of the person requiring care and, at the same time, enables care to be provided in accordance with current professional standards.

Complying with the fundamental principles of quality for care in the everyday interaction of society with the individuals occupying the beds who require care is measured not only by the care providers' qualifications and the medical and psychological standards, but also

by the aids which are in use. Against this backdrop, there is an ethical/moral obligation to not bring a care bed onto the market on the basis of short-term economic considerations if the product has minimal features and is of low quality.

By providing this Voluntary Declaration of Commitment, the manufacturers of care beds and accessories which have signed the document explicitly aim



to, whilst taking these ethical/moral considerations into account, guide the focus of care discussions onto the care bed as the "point of care", which is the space in which the individual requiring care often spends most of their time.

The rights of individuals requiring help and care have been defined in the Care Charta in eight articles. In these articles, quality features, goals and rights of the individuals requiring care are specified, the fulfilment of which must be strived for in order to provide good care and support. This Voluntary Declaration of Commitment is based on the Care Charta.

The manufacturers' Voluntary Declaration of Commitment is aimed at the individuals occupying the beds who require care, the care staff and the relatives of the individuals who require care.

»» The goal is to demonstrate how the manufacturers of care beds consider and implement the ethical requirements of the Care Charta in the functionalities of a care bed for the benefit of the individual requiring care, the care staff and the relatives who provide care.««



With the Voluntary Declaration of Commitment, the manufacturers are making a commitment to comply with the legal requirements and the requirements defined by society as a whole.

In this regard, the Care Charta forms the basis for the development of care beds and accessories.



In the development of care beds, the manufacturers take into consideration the eight articles of the Care Charta in order to protect the rights of individuals who require help and care* by...

»»... viewing care beds and accessories for them as medical devices which ensure the highest possible safety standards for the occupant who requires care, for the care staff and for the relatives who provide care.

»»... striving to achieve a balanced relationship between ensuring the best possible protection for the occupant against falls and maintaining a significant level of freedom and self-determination.

»»... developing care beds such that they support the everyday work of the care staff and relatives who provide care.

»»... contributing to a sense of cosiness at the point of care and to the occupant's well-being, as well as promoting good sleep.

»»... making a contribution to protecting the environment.

»»... following the SPECTARIS Code of Conduct for partnerships in the field of health services, as well as the general standards for work ethics and data protection.

»»... participating in holistic care solutions and working towards future-ready care provision.

* The full Voluntary Declaration of Commitment can be downloaded from the SPECTARIS website at www.spectaris.de, as well as from the websites of the manufacturers which have signed it.