

# Award for Hanusch Hospital

UNIVANTS Healthcare Excellence Award honors exemplary team performance in the healthcare sector.

December 17, 2020 - The Hanusch Hospital of the Austrian Health Insurance Fund (ÖGK) received an award from the “2020 UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence Program” for exemplary management of the Covid pandemic. This award goes to Austria for the first time. A total of 180 projects and initiatives from 140 countries were submitted for the 2020 award, and 24 teams were awarded. The Hanusch Hospital and the ÖGK are very happy to be honored as the only award winners from Austria.

The award was given to the Hanusch Hospital by an independent, international jury. This consists of leading specialist societies, institutions and associations from various medical disciplines. The assessment is based on strict guidelines for measurable additional performance through innovative solutions and for outstanding teamwork for the benefit of the patients.

## Comprehensive protection and test concept

Even in the early phase of the pandemic, a multidisciplinary team of doctors as well as laboratory and hygiene specialists worked out a comprehensive security concept for the Hanusch Hospital and the four Vienna ÖGK health centers. With all these measures, uncontrolled transmissions among patients and staff could be avoided and the clinical service could be restarted quickly. “So far, this commitment has contributed to the safe treatment of patients in the health facilities of the ÖGK in Vienna,” said Dr. <sup>in</sup> Elisabeth Zwettler, Medical Director of the Hanusch Hospital and Dr. Andreas Krauter, Senior Physician of the ÖGK.

After the first Covid wave in Europe, the focus of the project was on determining the Austria-wide prevalence

of SARS-CoV-2 infections. The ÖGK offered through the Institute for Medical and Chemical Laboratory Diagnostics of the Hanusch Hospital under the direction of Primaria Priv.Doz. <sup>in</sup> Dr. <sup>in</sup> Nazanin Sédille-Mostafaie offers all employees anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody screening. Thanks to sophisticated logistics and IT, almost 8,000 of the 12,000 ÖGK employees across Austria were tested in just a few weeks. This confirmed the high effectiveness of the hygiene concept and the other safety measures in the health facilities and in the administration of the ÖGK. “The findings from this study also confirmed that the care of the patients and the protection of the ÖGK employees could be ensured” emphasizes Primarius Prof. Dr. Felix Keil, Head of the Hemato-Oncology Department.

Such extraordinary services can only take place under the framework conditions provided by the General Director of the ÖGK, Bernhard Wurzer and the head of the own facilities, Erol Holawatsch. And above all, they testify to excellent teamwork.

## The UNIVANTS Healthcare Excellence Program

The UNIVANTS Healthcare Excellence program is a renowned global award program. It was developed by Abbott in collaboration with leading healthcare organizations around the world with the vision of motivating and recognizing multidisciplinary teams for excellence in healthcare. In 2020 the program reached more than 140 countries, thus enabling international networking and the transfer of best practice models. This enabled the Hanusch Hospital and the ÖGK to make a contribution to the health system in all of these countries.