



## The Thorax Foundation Heidelberg

The Thoraxklinik in Heidelberg is one of the largest specialized pulmonary clinics in Europe with a well-known international reputation. It is part of Heidelberg University Hospital. Therefore, our patients can be treated on the highest level of care. The Thorax Foundation, based in Heidelberg, was founded in 2015 initiated by Rolf. H. Kübler, a former patient and the Chief Physician of the department of Thorax Oncology, Prof. Dr. Michael Thomas. Since then the aim is to exclusively support projects the patients of the Thoraxklinik directly benefit from and enable preventive measures for the population.

In Asia the Ginkgo tree is one of the holy trees and represents strength and resilience - we also have two of these trees in our park. They are supposed to be the symbol of our foundation, which is dedicated to the most seriously ill people.

It is our deep desire to continually improve our patients' quality of life by applying the latest research findings and specific projects initiated for this purpose.

**We would be very grateful for your support, as there will be a continuing increase of pulmonary diseases with profound consequences for the affected patients and their families!**

## Donations and contact details

If you provide us with your contact details by making a donation, you will receive a donation receipt. You are also welcome to indicate a special purpose, e.g. lung research, HeiMeKOM or prevention. With our newsletter "GINKGO" we will keep you informed about all the activities of the foundation.

**Donation account:**  
**Volksbank Kraichgau eG**  
**IBAN: DE08 6729 2200 0049 1049 10**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us directly:

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Thoraxstiftung Heidelberg  
*Um im Leben zu bleiben*



## Prevention and precaution

Prevention and precaution play a central role, particularly in preventing smoking-related diseases. The campaign „ohnekippe“ of the Thoraxklinik deals with the primary prevention of smoking. Since the year 2000, pupils from the region have been invited regularly to visit the clinic in order to learn more about the risks of smoking.

Whereas a bronchial carcinoma can be treated successfully only in low tumour stages, lung cancer must be diagnosed already one step earlier, i.e. while there are no direct symptoms. For this reason, the aim of the Foundation is to support individual lung cancer screening studies by using the latest low-dose CT combined with a computer-assisted post-processing.



## HeiMeKOM – or how to overcome limits

HeiMeKOM is a synonym for Heidelberg's milestone communication concept. Especially in case of an untreatable disease, communication is challenging and complex for all parties involved (patients / relatives / professional participants) due to the complexity of strains as well as healing expectations.

An oncological consulting team which is already well-established at the Thoraxklinik (for example nursing staff taking part at the doctor's consultations and advising patients in the context of their disease) is also financed by donations of the foundation.

## DaVinci-Surgery-Robot System

In the field of minimally invasive thoracic surgery the spectrum of treatments at the Thoraxklinik has been expanded already by robotic-assisted surgical techniques. A DaVinci-Surgery-Robot-System of the latest generation is available at the Surgical Department of the Thoraxklinik. The high costs of this investment shall be also financed to some extent by donations of the foundation.

## Lung Research

Research takes place in all clinical areas of the Thoraxklinik: Pneumology (Prof. Dr. Felix Herth), Oncology (Prof. Dr. Michael Thomas), Surgery (Prof. Dr. Hauke Winter), Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology with Nuclear Medicine (Prof. Dr. Claus Peter Heußel) as well as Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (PD Dr. Werner Schmidt).

Scientific studies are essential to improve the diagnostic and therapeutic possibilities. In our study centres the patients are comprehensively cared by experienced experts. The Thoraxklinik is a partner of the German Center for Lung Research (DZL).

The common goal is to find new ways in terms of prevention, diagnosis and therapy of lung diseases and to find ways how to apply scientific insights for the benefit of the patients more quickly.

