

## **Developments regarding the implementation of the DRG system in Cyprus.**

The Health Insurance Organisation on October 9, 2009, signed a three-year contract with the German Organisation InEK for the implementation of the DRG (Diagnosis Related Group) system as the reimbursement method for inpatient care services in Cyprus. InEK is the Organisation responsible for the operation of DRGs in Germany.

The Cyprus DRG project implementation began in November 2009 and is proceeding according to schedule. In order to facilitate the implementation, several presentations have been delivered in a number of public and private hospitals. Additionally, 30 people employed in public and private sector hospitals were trained in coding and other DRG-related topics. The project includes, amongst others, the preparation of DRG, diagnosis and procedure catalogues, all adapted to the Cyprus environment.

Since September 20, 2010, the implementation of the DRG system began on a pilot basis in two public and three private hospitals and is proceeding smoothly. At the same time, cases are being coded and assigned to DRGs in 12 other hospitals which employ the remaining coders who completed the DRG training program. To date, more than 10.000 cases have been coded and have been assigned to DRGs.

Furthermore, a second program to train additional coders is now under way and is expected to be completed in May 2011.