The Department of Neurosurgery at the University of Bonn

About Us

With over 2600 surgical procedures and 3000 inpatient visits a year, the Department of Neurosurgery at the University of Bonn Hospital is one of the largest neurosurgical departments in Germany.

The inpatient floor consists of single or double rooms divided into two units, along with a specially equipped pediatric care unit with 8 beds (see photograph).

Additionally, the Neuroscience Centre contains an interdisciplinary 18-bed intensive care unit serviced by neurosurgery, neurology, and anesthesia. A 10-bed comprehensive intermediate care unit is also currently under construction.

The department has four state-of-the-art operating theatres, one of which includes an intraoperative high-field MRI machine.

Under the direction of the Director of the Clinic, patients receive care from eight consulting physicians and 20 registrars. A large number of nurses, physiotherapists, speech therapists, surgical assistants and social workers also care for our patients in a professional and humane manner.

The history of Neurosurgery at the University of Bonn Hospital began in 1946, an early time in our young specialty. There, in the Department of Neurology at the Kaiser-Karl-Ring, Dr. Peter Röttgen, surgical consultant, performed the first neurosurgical procedure. By October 1954, after completing a thesis on peripheral nerve surgery, Dr. Röttgen then was able to independently lead his division. Soon following this, the department moved into its own building (1955)—the former eye hospital in Wilhelmstrasse 31 in the city center. Later on (1971), the department moved again into a new building on the Venusberg as a part of the Neuroscience Center. Finally, with the appointment of Professor Röttgen to full professor in 1962, the Department of Neurosurgery was established. After Professor Röttgen's tenure as Chair, Professor Rolf Wüllenweber took over in 1978, and then in 1989, Professor Johannes Schramm followed. Most recently, since October 2012, Professor Hartmut Vatter is Chair of the Department of Neurosurgery.

Areas of emphasis in the department include vascular neurosurgery, surgical neuro-oncology, spine surgery, epilepsy surgery, pediatric neurosurgery, neurosurgical intensive care, functional neurosurgery, neuromodulation and radiosurgery. Thus, our department offers the full spectrum of neurosurgery at the highest level of care.

Close collaboration with colleagues from Neuroradiology, Neuropathology, Neurology, Epileptology, Pediatrics, Radiation Oncology and Pain Management (all located in close proximity), allows a comprehensive and complex medical treatment of every patient. In scientific and research pursuits, we participate in various national and international clinical studies and projects. Continuing education and attendance at various conferences and scientific meetings allow our doctors, nurses, and scientists to remain up-to-date in the current state of medical knowledge.
Neuroscience Centre: Psychiatry, Psychotherapy, Epileptology, Neurology, Neurosurgery, Neuropathology

The enviable position of the Neuroscience Centre at the southern end of the hospital campus places the Department of Neurosurgery at the immediate border of the Kottenforst forest.

Centre for Integrated Oncology Cologne/Bonn
Tumor and Spine Surgery Centre of Excellence
Centre for Epilepsy Surgery