

16 March 2007

**PRESS RELEASE**

**ACCREDITATION OF THE ATHENS DIAGNOSTIC AND TREATMENT CENTRE**  
**HYGEIA S.A.: A NEW QUALITY STANDARD**

The **Athens Diagnostic and Treatment Centre HYGEIA S.A.** is expected to be accredited with a new Accreditation Standard for Health Care Organisations, the **Joint Commission International**. The project officially began in **January 2007** and is expected to be completed in approximately 18 months.

The **Joint Commission International** is an internationally recognised Accreditation Standard for Health Care Organisations. On a **world-wide level, 107 Health Care Organisations** have been accredited with this standard. In **Europe** alone, **54** organisations have been accredited.

**HARVARD MEDICAL INTERNATIONAL** has assumed a consulting role in this effort, representatives of which recently visited **HYGEIA S.A.** so as to become familiar with the manner by which the departments of the Athens Diagnostic and Treatment Centre operate and to record the plan of works that the Centre will have to complete in order to be accredited by the **Joint Commission International**.

It should be noted that, for the past five years, HYGEIA S.A. has been collaborating with **HARVARD MEDICAL INTERNATIONAL** with an aim toward upgrading its health services, providing ongoing training to its medical and nursing staff by the professors of the Harvard Medical School, reinforcing its research department and creating, together with **HARVARD MEDICAL INTERNATIONAL**, a Medical School.

To this day, **HYGEIA S.A.** has been certified solely based on **the standards of the International Organisation of Standardisation**. The difference between the **ISO** certification and the accreditation of the **Joint Commission International** is that **ISO** (as it applied at **HYGEIA S.A.**) focuses on isolated departments and on the relations thereof with their inpatients and outpatients.

The **Joint Commission International**, on the other hand, focuses on activities that relate to patients, which include medical, nursing and administrative activities, as well

as the interaction thereof, thus contributing to the company's goal of providing high-quality services.

Accreditation by the **Joint Commission International** will elevate **HYGEIA S.A.** to a selective category of Health Care Organisations that have received this distinction. Most importantly, however, the company's accreditation will further improve the services that it provides to its patients.

Please find attached hereto a selection of scientific publications that concern:

- The minutes of the two Conferences that the **Athens Diagnostic and Treatment Centre HYGEIA S.A.** organised in collaboration with **HARVARD MEDICAL INTERNATIONAL** in June 2003 and 2005 during which the latest developments in the area of cancer and in the sector of Preventive Medical Care, respectively, were discussed.
- The Alzheimer disease. These publications concern the latest issue of 'Iatrikon Analekton' (a collection of medical literary works) that is published by the Athens Diagnostic and Treatment Centre.

HYGEIA S.A. is at your disposal for any questions or remarks that you may have.

Sincerely,

**Marilena Karamitrou**

Director of the Media Office of HYGEIA S.A.