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**24/03/2006**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**HYGEIA : STRATEGIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH "MITERA"**

It is announced that HYGEIA's Management has decided to move forward with a strategic cooperation agreement with the management of MITERA.

A Joint Working Committee will be established to explore and examine the possible areas and sectors where the strategic cooperation of the two clinics can focus on. The Committee will consist of representatives from both parties and refer to the Board of Directors of the two companies, which of course will be exclusively responsible for the adoption or not of such proposals.

The basic points on which the Committee's activities will be concentrated are as follows:

1. Identification of administrative, technical or supportive activity areas where joint activities could provide positive synergies and economies of scale, aiming ultimately at minimizing cost and thus at maximizing the financial performance of the two companies.
2. Direct cooperation of associate doctors of MITERA with the HYGEIA clinic and vice versa.
3. Coverage of excess occupancy of HYGEIA for needs in regular hospitalization, Intensive Care Unit etc in areas of MITERA and vice versa.
4. Coverage of HYGEIA's clientele as regards to pediatric cases by MITERA's Pediatric Clinic.
5. Coverage of MITERA's clientele in diagnostic areas that are not currently available, i.e. gamma Knife etc, by HYGEIA.

The responsibilities of the Joint Working Committee will be exclusively to provide proposals and the final decision for the adoption or not of such proposals will remain in the responsibilities of the Board of Directors, while any cooperation will not affect the legal and administrative independence of the two companies.

We have requested and our request has been accepted, that MITERA be represented in HYGEIA's Board of Directors by one member, in order for such to monitor the way the former operates and thus to establish a good



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cooperation environment with trust that will help in a possible organizational convergence.

At a second stage and following a successful trial of cooperation in practice with common benefits for both companies, the Committee will prepare a business plan and will examine in detail the possible merger of the two companies.

The reason we have led to consider, as Management, the strategic cooperation agreement with MITERA as particularly important, apart from the apparent synergies expected due to the natural proximity of the two clinics, is the confidence that our strategic objectives are absolutely in line. Moreover, we believe that the two companies complete each other under conditions of intense competition and also significant challenges, thus leading to maximization of our company's performance and protection of our shareholders' the assets.

Finally, it is announced that in the context of this significant strategic alliance, the Management of HYGEIA is likely to also acquire, following a relevant recommendation by the BoD of MITERA, shares of any shareholders of MITERA who wish to sell.