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- *Wirtschaftstheorie* -  
Research Center for Social  
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Dagmar Herzog GmbH  
z. For the attention of Mr.  
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Bayreuth, November 18, 2004

## Statement on the Herzog Method

Dear Mr. Nehm,

The German health care system is primarily faced with a quality problem, which is also linked to a financing problem. So-called diseases of civilization, in particular, are increasingly dominating the discussion in health science.

In Germany, for example, the cost of diabetes care alone is estimated at over €15 billion per year. The annual costs of malnutrition alone are estimated at around 70 billion '2. At the same time, the results of care for diabetes and other chronic diseases are rather mediocre by international standards. The health care of the future will also be increasingly confronted with psychosocial problems. Changing life biographies, which are associated with more frequent changes in the workplace, mean that "itemsd life-form-oriented" illnesses are gaining in importance. Recent studies from the USA, for example, estimate the cost to employers of depression-related illnesses at approximately \$31 billion per year (Jama 2003; 289:3135-3144).

At the same time, the working environment itself plays a major role in the development of depression. Future care services must therefore be much more strongly oriented toward the patient's individual environment and must also include whole-

secretly take into account the patient's life situation. As an example for this the Herzog method can stand godfather, die 'physicians and patients equally help to the self-help makes possible and, based on the realizations of the current emotion research, the removal of the cause of disturbances has as a goal. However, self-help and prevention measures can only serve as a means of differentiation for health care providers and health insurance companies in a competitive market. Consequently, a sensible prevention policy has to look at the degrees of freedom *in the provision* of services and focus on the quality of care.

With warm regards

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Your

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Oberender'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent 'P' and a long, sweeping underline.

Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Peter Oberender