Professor Helmut Schühlen, who is Senior Consultant in the Department for Internal Medicine at the Vivantes Auguste-Viktoria Hospital and has two years’ experience in this field, explains the complexity of diabetes and circulatory disorders affecting the heart: “Diabetes encourages hardening of the walls of blood vessels and is a very serious risk factor. If it affects the blood vessels to the heart, the cardiac muscle no longer receives an adequate supply of blood, which increases the risk of a heart attack.” Unfortunately, this occurs in diabetes patients all too often; more than 75 per cent of diabetics suffer a heart attack or stroke.

People with diabetes mellitus type two also frequently face other risk factors such as high blood pressure.

Dyslipidemia and obesity increase the risk of a heart attack and other vascular problems like strokes.

The expertise of Professor Schühlen and his team in two medical specialisms – cardiology and diabetology – is rarely found in this specific combination. It does, however, meet the growing demand for this kind of treatment sought by German and international patients.

The department at the Vivantes Auguste-Viktoria Hospital has gained an international reputation for its combined expertise in diabetology and cardiology and for the comprehensive inpatient care that it offers. It provides the full range of diagnostics and treatment for acute and chronic illnesses in the field of internal medicine. The department’s location and high standard of equipment are also ideal, especially for dealing with emergency cases, due to its proximity to the accident & emergency department, conservative intensive care unit, chest pain unit, and cardiac catheterisation laboratory providing 24-hour emergency care.