



DER MINISTERPRÄSIDENT DES LANDES BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG

### **Message of greeting**

I would like to welcome all participants from Germany and abroad to the first International Congress for Integrative Health & Medicine in Stuttgart, the state capital of Baden-Württemberg! As the patron of this event I am very pleased about the opportunity to bring many health experts together within this international congress for a professional dialog. The conference offers a great opportunity for physicians, caretakers and therapists from conventional and complementary medicine to substantially extend their knowledge and to create new impulses for our health care system.

At the International Congress for Integrative Health & Medicine numerous internationally leading experts from practice, research, and politics will present and discuss the latest findings of their fields. This will contribute to finding innovative solutions for our health care system. The focus will be set on the issue of how novel methods, concepts, and research results can be translated wisely into practical work. In this process, international exchange plays an important role.

Our health care system is facing great challenges: Rising costs and an increasing number of chronic diseases require new concepts. At the same time there is a growing demand for integrative medicine and a stronger collaboration between conventional and complementary medicine.

The government of Baden-Württemberg is committed to providing region-wide, needs-oriented, and high-quality medical health care for all its citizens. Through an open dialog with experts and the public all parties concerned will be involved in developing and refining health care. Our goal is to make health care politics more interconnected and regional, oriented towards the needs of citizens and patients.

I would like to thank everyone who has made the International Congress for Integrative Health & Medicine possible and wish all participants an interesting and successful conference.



Winfried Kretschmann

Minister-President of the State of Baden-Württemberg