

A commitment to quality healthcare

The extension and growth of ASISA have gone hand in hand with the creation of a complex network of healthcare installations. The co-operative principles that establish management of the clinical centres by the doctors themselves, the defence of quality healthcare and the patient's right to intimacy have been guiding factors in the construction and start-up of the 15 clinics wholly owned by ASISA and another in which the ASISA Group has a participation.

In the decade of the 80s, construction of the El Ángel clinic by the Igualatorio Médico mutual benefit association, precursor to ASISA in the province, initiated the policy of creation of a hospital infrastructure of self-owned hospitalisation facilities.

The scarcity of private hospital beds coupled, in many cases, with the technological inadequacy of those that there were meant that it was impossible to guarantee a reasonable quality of cover to ASISA members' hospitalisation needs. The healthcare vocation of its owners, namely the doctors belonging to the Lavinia S. Coop, and the legal nature of the co-operative company, which facilitates reinvestment of surpluses into the company activity, together with the experience gathered by the doctors themselves in the Malaga initiative did the rest. Throughout these years, surpluses from the business activity have been preferentially destined to the creation of a robust hospital infrastructure aimed at practising high quality medicine. This guarantees quality healthcare to members and exercise of their professional activity to the doctors, in



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conditions of accredited technical and professional confidence.

The management of ASISA clinics answers to the criteria laid down by the governing organs of the co-operative, leading to the practice of more humanised medicine and the defence of direct management of the centres by doctors from the co-operative. Other notable characteristics of this healthcare model emphasise democratic participation by all its professionals and the encouragement of recycling and continuous training activities.

In the medical insurance sector in Spain, ASISA



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currently possesses the largest network of clinics, with 15 wholly-owned and participation in another, all boasting the most modern infrastructure and latest, cutting edge technology. A hospitalisation capacity of 1,200 rooms and highly qualified teams of professionals guarantee members warm and personalised treatment.

Defence of the patient's right to intimacy, a fundamental pillar for the practice of more humanised medicine, means that the guarantee of privacy in periods of hospitalisation is an unwavering maxim of the Spanish health co-operative movement.

ASISA network of clinics

Nuestra Señora del Rosario Albacete; **Vistahermosa** Alicante; **Los Naranjos** Badajoz; **San Carlos** Granada; **Los Naranjos-Citra** Huelva; **Moncloa** Madrid; **El Ángel** Málaga; **Nuestra Señora de Belén** Murcia; **Virgen de la Vega** Murcia; **Santa Isabel** Sevilla; **Montpellier** Zaragoza; **Mediterráneo** Almería; **Nuestra Señora del Perpetuo Socorro** Lleida; **Clínica Jerez** Jerez.

That is why hospitalisation for ASISA members is in an individual room with a spare bed for a family member or friend, ensuring every patient a passage through their illness surrounded by friendly faces.

The capacity of permanent renovation of structures, means and procedures is evidence of ASISA's commitment to quality healthcare. Such as the Telemedicine project, initiated in the Image Diagnosis units and functioning by means of the interconnection of clinics through an Intranet, enabling the real-time transmission of images, reports and videoconferences. This has improved the diagnostic capabilities of each unit and facilitated instant exchange of experiences between their members.

The Nuestra Señora del Perpetuo Socorro clinic in Lleida, the Vistahermosa in Alicante, the Jerez in Cádiz, the Angel in Málaga and the Inmaculada in Granada are all now equipped with an integrated communications system enabling the transmission of digital images for teleconsultation. The Clínica Moncloa in Madrid is the reference centre for this network. **F**