

DGM Germany – Who we are – What we do

Mariella Oster – Mito Diagnosis Group/DGM

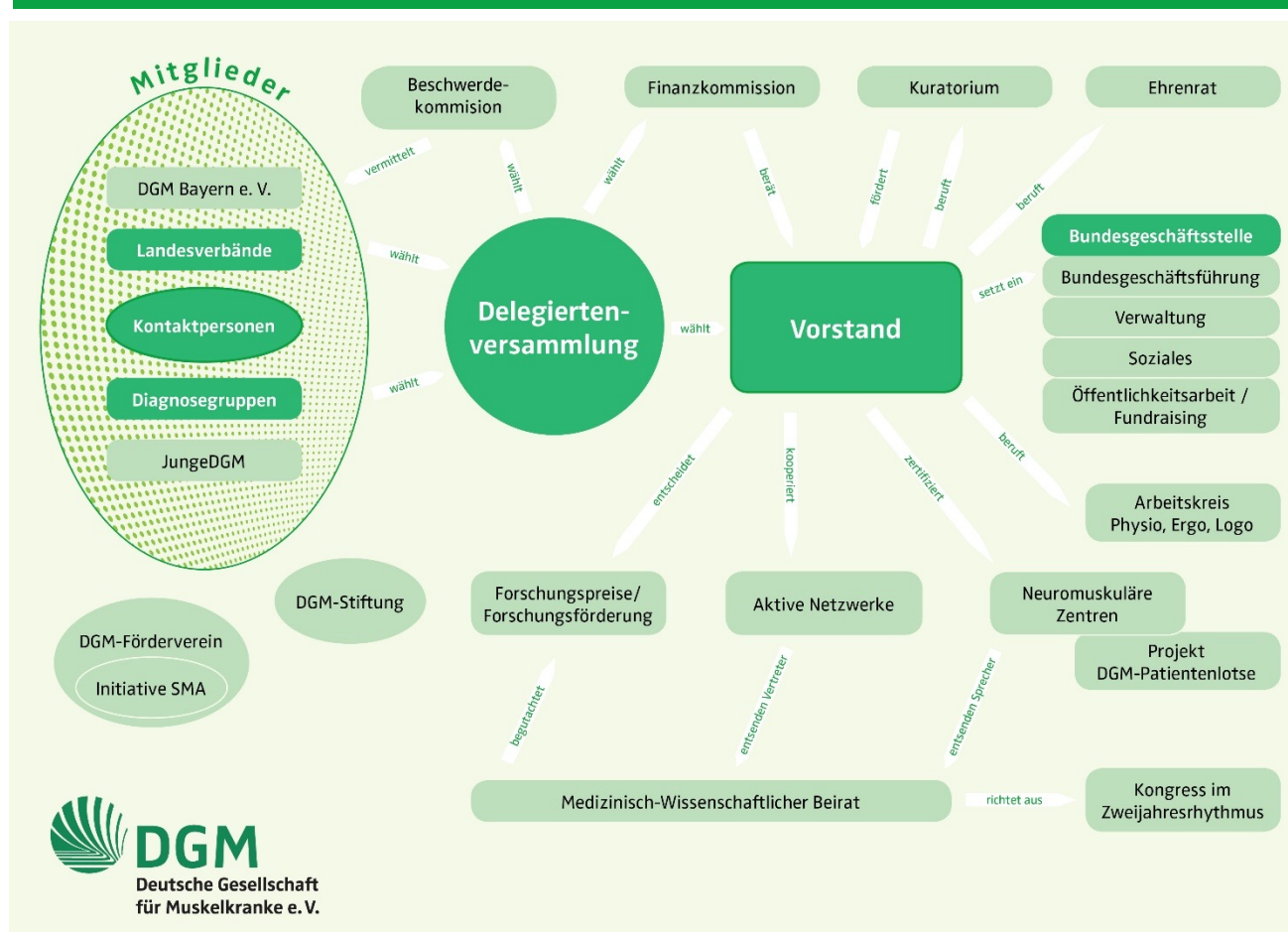
DGM

Largest German Association for patients with a neuro-muscular disease with more than 10,000 members and currently 370 active volunteers (2025).

Last year we celebrated DGM's 60-year anniversary and welcomed our new CEO, Mirko Bastian.

Silke Schlüter is our president since 2023.

Structure



11 Diagnosis Groups



The Mito Diagnosis Team

President and Vice-president:

Claus-Peter Eisenhardt and Janet Naumann

Elected board member: Mariella Oster

Several other volunteers who are mainly advising patients with mitochondrial diseases and their families based on their own personal experience.

Current focus on a digital talk series in autumn where we invite clinicians to give a lecture on their field of expertise with a focus on Mito.

Strong cooperation with International Mito Patients (IMP) and projects with both national and international research groups.

Regularly updated Patients' and Clinicians' Guidelines for the treatment and therapy of mitochondrial diseases.



Main Goals

- It's our goal to increase the quality of life for people with a neuro-muscular disease and continuously fight for a better integration and inclusion of people with a disability into all layers of our society.
- On an individual level, DGM provides advice regarding all kinds of personal topics, for example getting the disability status recognized.
- DGM acts as a political advocacy group for people with neuro-muscular diseases. Current issues concern protest against reductions in financial aid for disabled children and adolescents planned by the German government.

Areas of Support

- Promotion of support groups
- Legal advice
- Financial support for research
- Information and raising awareness
- Cooperation with neuro-muscular centers in hospitals
- Political advocacy
- Advice on assistive technologies (p. ex. wheelchairs) and remodeling cars
- Architectural advice for remodeling houses / apartments for accessibility
- "Try-it-out"-Apartment for rent

