Nanomedicine in Europe: present and for the future

14.00-18.30, 2 June 2010, European Parliament, Room ASP 5 G 3, Brussels

Nanomedicine is the application of nanotechnology in medicine and healthcare at the molecular level.

Nanomedical applications are not just a theoretical possibility because more than forty products are already in use. However, the field is still relatively new which means that Europe is at an ideal moment to consider the possible impacts and consequences of nanomedicine as well as the actions required as a result.

To take the right actions in a timely manner it is important to have reliable data about the main areas of nanomedicine, the infrastructures required for fast translation of R&D results into clinical applications and the societal, economic, ethical and regulatory environment of nanomedicine. During 2009 three European Commission projects gathered information and advice from more than 100 leading experts from academia, industry, regulatory agencies and patient organisations throughout Europe concerning all these areas. The exchange and sharing of information and the mutual involvement of the many experts in these and other national and European projects provide solid basis for making recommendations for the successful and sustainable competitiveness of nanomedical research and development in Europe and of its healthcare industries.

This event with its leading speakers on each of the key topics will result in showing that not taking action now would be wasting opportunity. By doing too little or too late or nothing, we would significantly risk hindering or even blocking the development of these innovations in Europe to the detriment of European research and development, its healthcare industries, and, most importantly, patients which is all of us. It's never too early to act until it's too late.

Programme

14.00 Press Conference

Chairmen and all speakers

14.30 Welcome and introduction

Chairmen: Mr Correia de Campos MEP, STOA Vice-Chairman & Prof Sir John Beringer, former Pro Vice-Chancellor, University of Bristol, UK (Nanomed Round Table chairman)

14.40 Nanomedicine in the EC's Action Plans for Nanotechnology

Christos Tokamanis, Head of Unit, Operational Unit Nanosciences and Nanotechnologies, European Commission

15.00 Nanomedicine to 2020

Patrick Boisseau, CEA, (ETP Nanomedicine, Coordinator Nano2Life Network of Excellence and EuroNanoBio)

15.20 Changing academia/industry relations for nanomedicine

Mike Eaton, formerly Head of Biological Chemistry UCB and Senior Principal Scientist at UCB Pharma (ETP Nanomedicine)

15.40 The view from a small nanomed company – MagForce Nanotechnologies AG

Dr. Andreas Jordan, founder and Chief Scientific Officer (Nanomed Round Table)

16.00 Nanomedicine in the broader field of nanotechnology's present and future

Dr Steffi Friedrichs, Director of the Nanotechnology Industries Association (NIA)

16.20 Patients' views and needs

Alastair Kent, President, European Genetic Alliances' Network (EGAN); Director, Genetic Interest Group (GIG), London; Chairman. European Platform for Patients' Organisations, Science and Industry (EPPOSI) (Nanomed Round Table)

16.40 The regulatory framework

Prof Julian Kinderlerer, Delft University of Technology and University of Cape Town, member of the EC's European Group on Ethics (Nanomed Round Table and Nanobio-RAISE)

17.00 Safety aspects and risk assessment issues

Robert Geertsma, Netherlands National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) (Nanomed Round Table)

17.20 Ethical and societal considerations

Prof Alfred Nordmann, Technische Universität Darmstadt and University of South Carolina (Nanomed Round Table, DEEPEN, NanoCap, ObservatoryNano, EthicSchool)

17.40 Engaging the public

Prof Wolfgang Heckl, General Director, Deutsches Museum, Munich (Nanomed Round Table, NANOTOTOUCH)

18.00 Plenary panel discussion

Chairmen and all speakers

18.30 Close and cocktail reception