

The European Foundation for Clinical Nanomedicine announces

European Society for Nanomedicine (ESNAM)

Background

Nanomedicine – the New Clinical Field

Nanomedicine is emerging as a new clinical field that applies nanotechnology for solving a wide range of current medical problems, while keeping an open mind to the toxicological, societal and ethical impact of the new technologies. New nanotechnology-based methods and materials with innovative nanoscale properties are being investigated to improve the prevention, early and reliable diagnosis and effective treatment of prevalent and of currently incurable diseases. Successful developments in major areas of research such as targeted drug delivery, medical nanomaterials, diagnostic imaging, regenerative medicine, and biomaterial implants have already elicited favourable responses. Therefore, the time has come to address the many challenges in bringing nanomedicine to the patient.

Clinical Challenges

Until now nanomedical research has mainly focused on in vitro studies, as well as cell and animal models of diseases. However, an increasing number of products are being tested clinically and some are reaching the market. Specific challenges are: facilitating clinical research, developing regulatory expertise to assess nanomedicines, and promoting investments in nanomedical clinical research and experimentation. A major issue, which needs to be faced squarely, is to strengthen the collaboration between clinic, engineering, industry, and academia as well as to support a sound public perception of nanomedicine including evaluation and discussion of its societal and ethical dimensions.

Collaboration of physicians and application oriented nanoscientists

In the field of nanomedicine it is essential to create a favourable environment for clinical research and development. Thus, it will be imperative to motivate more physicians in assuming their vital role in further developing the positive potential and application of nanomedicine. What is needed is a coordinated effort in expanding a well-functioning network of collaboration between physicians and other scientists involved in applied nanomedicine.

CLINAM initiates the network

The European Foundation for Clinical Nanomedicine was established by the European Society for Nanomedicine in Basel, Switzerland in April 2007, and will realise its annual clinic-focused conference, its secretariat, its publications, and further events.

Purpose and Goals

Involving the clinical partners in nanomedicine

In the last two years many excellent European platforms, initiatives, and framework-programmes have been launched and have built valuable bridges between researchers and industry. However, until now clinical partners have often not been involved sufficiently.

As they are the ‘gateway’ to clinical application, they need to be involved to a greater extent than at present. This is necessary in order to achieve a clinical use-oriented dialogue with all players in various fields of nanomedicine.

Representing the Clinical Nanomedicine Community

As a professional association, the European Society of Nanomedicine seeks to promote the clinical exploration and application of nanomedicine and to address the implications for society and the environment to the welfare of individuals and the general public.

The European Society for Nanomedicine has been established as a community of clinicians in nanomedicine, researchers in university and industry, and the interested public, and also to represent the community towards governmental and international organizations and industry-oriented associations. The Society and the Foundation promote the exchange of information and the collaboration between its members in annual meetings and other activities such as study courses, further education, collaboration development forums, and ethic-days. The ultimate goal is to establish a common voice for all those involved in clinical nanomedicine in defining the next steps for clinical applications.

Becoming the forum for clinical nanomedicine

The Foundation and the Society strive to become the forum for clinical nanomedicine which includes:

- Identifying clinical priority areas for nanomedicine research
- Defining important clinical development projects
- Lining up clinical research projects within the parameters of a European Milestone-Programme and in such manner will result in the “European Nanomedicine Application Window”
- Strengthening the interdisciplinary network within applied nanomedicine thereby facilitating innovation
- Creating the “melting pot” and interdisciplinary forum for clinical and applied nanomedicine in communication with technology labs, industry and related academia
- Establishing a congenial point of contact at the annual ***European Conference for Clinical Nanomedicine®***, (being launched in April 2008 for the first time) to discuss the state of the art in clinical Nanomedicine and to bridge the gap between the practice of clinical nanomedicine and the development of the future emerging technologies.
- Raising new issues of high clinical relevance within the CLINAM-E-journal ***European Journal of Applied Nanomedicine®***.
- Mobilising the funding for clinical research done by individual clinicians and clinical research groups

For further information please contact **PD Dr. Patrick Hunziker, MD**, President of the European Society for Nanomedicine Hunziker@esnam.org or **Beat Löffler, M.A.** Executive Director of the European Foundation for Clinical Nanomedicine Loeffler@clinam.org

European Society for Nanomedicine (ESNAM)**Application for membership** (you may also register by E-mail under www.esnam.org)

I / We would like to become a member of the European Society for Nanomedicine as

- Individual Member**
 Corporate Member (Legal, industrial, charitable or governmental legal entities in the field of nanomedicine)
 Student Member

Title: _____
 Last name: _____ First name: _____
 Profession: _____ Company / University _____
 Department / Affiliation _____ Address: _____
 ZIP code: _____ Town: _____
 Country: _____ Phone: _____
 Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

I am involved in Nanomedicine research and development yes no

(The following question relates to ESNAM's aim to guarantee a high level of transparency regarding its industry relations)

I am directly or indirectly associated with a company or institution with a commercial interest in nanomedicine yes no

Name of company/institution: _____

I am / we are interested in:

- Receiving the academic European Journal for Clinical Nanomedicine
 Information about the scientific conferences and activities of the network
 News on nanomedical therapies and diagnostic tools
 Participating in ethical and philosophical debates on nanomedicine
 Specifically: _____

I am / we are active in the following field:

Please send your short CV to ESNAM@Clinam.org as it is part of the application.

Name of sender in case that you are handling this application for someone else

Name: / First name: _____ Email: _____
 Town: / Country: _____ Phone: _____

- I agree that these data are used according to the legal regulations, including maintenance of the member- ship list and for information transfer between the European Society for Nanomedicine, the European Foundation for Clinical Nanomedicine and the members.**

Place / Date _____

Signature _____

Please return this registration form to the address below