

Nanomed Spain, the Spanish Technological Platform for Nanomedicine: promoting public-private collaboration, innovation and clinical translation of nanomedicine in Spain

Teresa Sanchis

Cristina Arimany, Josep Samitier

Nanomed Spain, Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia, Baldri Reixac 10-12, 08028 Barcelona, Spain

tsanchis@ibecbarcelona.eu

Abstract

The Spanish Platform for Nanomedicine (NanoMed Spain - <http://nanomedspain.net/>) is a forum that brings together 170+ public research centres, hospitals, companies and government representatives active in nanomedicine. Nanomed Spain is an instrument to coordinate entities involved in research and innovation, fundamental to the transfer of results to industry and the health system in this highly multidisciplinary field. It is also a means of connection to facilitate the internationalization of initiatives and projects, with the aim of improving the competitiveness of Spain in this field. Industry in the biomedical and biotechnology sector plays a leading role in the Platform, very actively supported by technology centers, research organizations, universities and hospitals, as well as by the national public administration.

Nanomed Spain was created in 2005 based on the model of the European Technological Platforms and in particular, of the European Technology Platform on Nanomedicine (ETPN), also created in 2005 by the industrial partners of the area and the European Commission as a communication tool for all actors in the sector with the aim of contributing to the joint development of new and innovative medical products and applications.

The mission of Nanomed Spain is to promote and facilitate public-private partnerships in research and innovation in nanomedicine in Spain, with the aim of accelerating the development of innovative therapeutics and diagnostics based on the capabilities offered by nanotechnology applied to health care.

Over the past months, the important role of research and innovation and multidisciplinary and multisectoral collaboration has been stressed more than ever. In the fight against COVID-19, nanomedicine has proven to play a very important role. From diagnosis with the use of nanosensors to treatment with targeted therapies, through the design of vaccines using nanomaterials or the identification of new drugs through in vitro models of organoids.

It is necessary to continue advancing and generating knowledge in this field, as well as to continue working in the coordination of the healthcare sector with various industrial sectors (pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical technologies) and research centers in order to face the new health challenges that may appear in the next few years in the most efficient way possible. In this talk we will review how Nanomed Spain contributes to this endeavor.