SPANISH TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM ON NANO MEDICINE: A JOINT INITIATIVE TO PROMOTE TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH.

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The Spanish Technology Platform on NanoMedicine (STPNM) is a joint initiative between Spanish industries and research centres working on nanotechnologies for medical applications with the support of the Spanish public Administration.

The main objectives of the Platform are:

- Improve the collaboration within the Nanomedicine community in Spain avoiding fragmentation and lack of coordination,
- Promote the participation of Spanish stakeholders in international initiatives, from transnational co-operations to European projects, especially regarding the European Technology Platform,
- Establish recommendations concerning strategic research lines in the Nanomedicine field,
- Dissemination of Nanomedicine results to the scientific community and society-at-large.

The focus of the Spanish Platform, with more than 100 members, is divided in five strategic priorities: Nanodiagnostics; Regenerative Medicine; Drug Delivery; Toxicity and Regulation; and Training and Communication. This activity has facilitated a wide participation of Platform members in Spanish strategic research programmes run by the Spanish government through the Ingenio2010 initiative.

In September 2006 the Spanish Platform published a report focused on current status of Nanomedicine in Spain in order to establish research and development priorities and action plans on a number of strategic issues to be solved in the medium to long term.