

Delivering the power of nanomedicine to patients today

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In a recent editorial Prof Park argued that in the last 15 years nanomedicine failed to deliver the promised innovative clinical solutions to the patients. The ETPN (European Technology Platform on Nanomedicine) respectfully disagrees. In fact, the more than 50 formulations currently in the market, and the recent approval of 3 key nanomedicine products (e. g. Onpattro, Hensify and Vyxeos), have demonstrated that the nanomedicine field is concretely able to design products that overcome critical barriers in conventional medicine in a unique manner, but also to deliver within the cells new drug-free therapeutic effects by using pure physical modes of action, and therefore make a difference in patient's lives. Furthermore, the >400 nanomedicine formulations currently in clinical trials are expecting to bring novel clinical solutions alone or in combination with other key enabling technologies to the market. However, we agree with Prof. Park that "it is time to examine the sources of difficulty in clinical translation of nanomedicine and move forward". But for reaching this goal, the investments to support clinical translation of promising nanomedicine formulations should increase, not decrease. We should create more unity through a common knowledge hub linking academia, industry, healthcare providers and hopefully policy makers to reduce the current fragmentation of the standardization and regulatory body landscape. We should also promote a strategy of cross-technology innovation, support nanomedicine development as a high value and low-cost solution to answer unmet medical needs and help the most promising innovative projects of the field to get better and faster to the clinic. All actions should be taken with a clear clinical view in mind, "without any fanfare", to focus "on what matters in real life", which is the patient and his/her quality of life.