

Editorial





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With the current dawn of the age of nanotechnology we live in exciting times. The long established boundaries between the scientific fields dissolve, since on the nanoscale, medicine, materials science, physics, chemistry, information theory and biology merge and become one: nanoscience and nanotechnology. We are currently starting to speak the language of life itself, and our nanotechnological devices interact with healthy and impaired biomolecules, tissues, cells, organs and organisms on the most basic and powerful level. This opens up enormous opportunities when it comes to health issues. Printing biomolecules with novel 3D printers, printing tissues, organs and scaffolds, nanoscale transporters of pharmaceuticals (targeted delivery) and molecular surgery are not any more topics of science fiction stories, but increasingly enter research and development as well as the health care market. Nanomedicine is powerful, and can be used in positive and negative ways. Especially in this new, exciting and fast growing field accompanying nanotechnology assessment studies are of paramount importance, as are value-based research and development as well as well-planned basic studies. Not everything that can be done should be done. Nanomedicine experts need to be trained interdisciplinarily, and will contribute responsible research and development for an important, fast growing market.

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Conflict of interest

None.



