

TERMIS-EU: Industry Committee – A proposal

The proposal of the creation of a TERMIS-EU Industry Committee is motivated by:

- the organization of two well attended and successful Industry symposia as parts of the TERMIS-EU 2010 & 2011 meetings
- the role of TERMIS-EU, as an interested party, selected and invited by the EMEA Committee of Advanced Therapies (CAT) (e.g. part of a working group on preclinical studies),
- the strong support of Kiki B. Hellman, chairing the TERMIS-NA Industry Committee.

TERMIS-EU represents numerous individuals and many organizations from different sectors; however Industries / SMEs / Academic Spin-offs are still likely under-represented. Given the recent progress worldwide, and particularly in Europe, of regenerative medicine with regard to both its fundamental science and industry growth, greater emphasis should be placed on how to more efficiently and effectively translate research and innovation into clinical applications that further advance the commercial development of tissue engineering & regenerative medicine, with society meetings like TERMIS-EU being an ideal forum.

The Industry committee should address the specific challenges and needs facing the industry in translating academic research into commercial products. It should also more tightly connect the scientific and clinical communities with industries / SMEs / academic spin-offs, on key research / development areas such as experimental and preclinical studies, intellectual property, manufacturing, quality control and regulatory support (e.g. identity, purity tests, mechanism of action), ...

Given the scientific complexity and the challenging regulatory environment of tissue engineering & regenerative medicine products, it is truly believed that academia and industry should be stronger partners throughout the full cycle of the commercial development of any new advanced therapies. In that respect, it is proposed that an

Industry Committee be created to continue the promotion of Academia – Industry events like symposia, so as to ensure all stakeholders needed to advance this shared field of science and medicine have a access to an open collaborative forum to meet, learn more from each other, exchange ideas and enter into partnerships.

The proposed TERMIS-EU Industry Committee should be independent of the equivalent TERMIS-NA Industry Committee, but always seeking to collaborate where and when appropriate, e.g. in the organization of Academia - Industry events at World TERMIS meetings for the purpose of sharing what each has learned. The proposed independence of each stems from the recognition that while we face many common issues and hence share similar goals, regional differences may necessitate the Committees be structured differently to better manage issues concerning: contingencies, membership, strategic planning, etc.



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