

Application for chairing the ETPN Safety & Characterisation WGs

Applicant as chair: *Fanny Caputo*

“If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”

Dear ETPN members, dear colleagues

Due to pandemic, the last 2 years have been a both challenging and exciting new era for our nanomedicine community. When we started our join path with the EXBO lead by Ruth Schmid we felt the need to defend the field from strong emerging criticism (an effort that resulted in the ETPN perspective published in JCR is 2020: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jconrel.2020.07.007>). Two years later, thanks to the efforts of all the scientists working in the field, the entire world is aware that nanomedicine is making a difference beyond oncology, e.g. with the mRNA based vaccines against SARS-COVID 2. Now more than ever, as part of the ETPN community, we are aiming to maintain the role of think tank of the nanomedicine community in Europe and to be the broker for our members in the starting new EC program. For fulfilling *together* this objective, I support the vision of Raymond Schiffelers, as a continuation of the great work initiated by Ruth Schmid in the last two years. I'm therefore applying with the new "RS" team, sharing the common objectives and goals.

Achievements, goals and vision for the Safety and Characterisation WG?

During the last two years it was a great honour and a privilege for me to chair the "Safety and Characterisation" working group (WG). Our main goals as chair and vice-chairs of the WG were to:

- (i) contribute to the discussion on challenges related to scale-up, characterization, and regulatory approval;
- (ii) to reinforce the knowledge exchange and communication between the members;
- (iii) to stimulate the networking activities.

In the last 2 years we have contributed to the advertising the main projects running within our community, creating a new the nanomedicine project page (<https://etp-nanomedicine.eu/about-nanomedicine/european-nanomedicine-projects/>). The project page is currently one of the most visited of the ETPN website. Moreover, thanks to the efforts of our WG and of the whole EXBO, members will shortly have an institution profile page where to share within the ETPN members their expertise, capability, and services they could offer to the community.

To continue to be the nanomedicine think tank, we have answered to online consultations organised by the EC and by the IPRP (International Pharmaceutical Regulators Programme) on safety and characterization related topics and we have contributed, together with the whole ETPN EXBO, to EC surveys on the starting Horizon Europe program.

We all had (and still are) trying to overcome the challenging travel limitations that are making effective networking very difficult. This is the reason why we have strongly supported, together with the EXBO, the organisation of a virtual brokage event in June, coordinated to the official publication focusing on the HE calls of cluster health with deadline in 2021 and early.

In the next 2 years we aim to continue the work we have started. There is still a lot of work to do to support you as ETPN members and reaching our goals. We are aiming to continue organising remote WG meeting 2 times/year in addition to yearly ETPN meetings to maintain a direct contact with WG members. This would be an occasion for WG members to foster R&D&I interactions, pitch to other WG members their expertise. Those meeting will be a unique occasion to discuss together common challenges related to scale-up, characterization, and regulatory approval of nanomedicine formulations and ongoing initiatives in the field.

We also aim, together with other working groups, to expand our online web-based educational content, and to facilitate sharing of information within the members. For example, we are currently working to update the nanomedicine map, introducing a new feature connected to your institution profile, giving ETPN members more visibility in the community! Also, new educational contents will be shared in the new ETPN educational platform (thanks to the Education and Training WG).

Finally (and very importantly!), I believe is very important to continue organising and advertise brokage events (in presence and/or virtually) at strategic times.

If your share our vision, I hope you would vote for me and for the other candidates of the "RS" team. But more importantly, I hope you will continue to actively participate to the ETPN activities to shape the success of nanomedicine in Europe all together.

Sincerely yours

Fanny Caputo