

# MINUTES OF 2ND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING OF COST ACTION CA17140 “CANCER NANOMEDICINE - FROM THE BENCH TO THE BEDSIDE”

*Riga, Latvia  
15/10/2019*

## **1. Welcome to participants**

The participants were welcomed by Prof. Barbara Klajnert-Maculewicz, Action Chair.

## **2. Verification of the presence of two-thirds of the participating COST Countries**

The quorum was reached: 28 country representatives out of 34 attended the meeting.

## **3. Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Management Committee (MC) meeting was adopted.

## **4. Update from Action Chair and Dr. Lucia Forzi**

### **a. Status of Action:**

The Action now has 114 MC members and MC substitute members from 34 COST countries (of whom 37 are secondary proposers from 21 COST countries).

Near Neighbor Countries (NNC)/International Partner Countries (IPC): 2 NNC with 3 secondary proposers. South Africa has recently been approved as an IPC (together with Canada).

The list of officially nominated participants of the Action with contact information is presented in e-COST and on Action webpage, <https://www.nano2clinic.eu/>.

### **b. Information on COST policies/mechanisms and the funding and reporting of coordination activities:**

The first scientific report will be provided at the end of 2020.

The Action are now in the second grant period (from May-to-May), and the grant cannot be transferred to next period.

Publications can be granted over the budget if at least two of the authors are members from different COST countries: Max. 10,000 EUR/publication (applied for >6 months before end of Action).

## **5. Update from the STSM Coordinator**

Prof. Maria Francesca Ottaviani presented a review of the completed reports and new applications (details in MC meeting chair presentation,

[https://www.nano2clinic.eu/sites/default/files/downloads/MC%20meeting%20-%20Chair\\_presentation.pdf](https://www.nano2clinic.eu/sites/default/files/downloads/MC%20meeting%20-%20Chair_presentation.pdf) ). At present, the Second Grant Period of COST action is running.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> STSM Call will open as soon as the budget is settled.

## 6. Status of the COST Action Budget

The Grant Holder Scientific Representative BKM gave an overview of the Action budget status.

- Budget for the first Grant period (GP 1: Oct 18- Apr 19) was well balanced and followed with minimal underspending.
- Budget for GP2 (May 19- Apr 20) of 168999 EUR has been approved, (see [https://www.nano2clinic.eu/sites/default/files/downloads/MC%20meeting%20-%20Chair\\_presentation.pdf](https://www.nano2clinic.eu/sites/default/files/downloads/MC%20meeting%20-%20Chair_presentation.pdf) ).

## 7. Update from the Science Communication Manager

Prof. Sabina Pricl informed about the status concerning communication of the COST Action and its members.

- The Website of the COST Action should be a perfect instrument for Action communication ([www.nano2clinic.eu](http://www.nano2clinic.eu); No subscription and accessible to everyone).
  - There is a direct link with social media (Broadcasted on Twitter and Facebook)
  - Space for WG leaders communications and work area
  - Publish open access publications on the website: Expected increase in joint publications as a result of the STSM activities
- The members were urged to become more active in submitting information for publication on the website. Only very few members are active on the social media. The members were urged to be Ambassadors of the Action!
- Suggested making a short Movie (during 3-4<sup>th</sup> year) about the Action aiming at disseminating our results to the public society: Contributions from members are welcomed.

## 8. Implementation of COST policies

by the chair Prof Barbara Klajnert-Maculewicz.

- **Gender balance** of the different roles and activities of the Action is generally good, except for Leadership and STSMs (85% females).
- **Promotion of Early Career Investigators (ECI)** : There are few ECIs represented in the network of proposers, as MC members and in the leadership (30%, 15% and none, respectively). The proposal by the core group of appointing ECIs (among the MC members) as Vice-WG Leaders was unanimously approved by MC.
- **Grants to ECIs from Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC)**:
  - The 1st COST Conference, 2 ITC grants selected among 14 eligible speakers.
  - Next year at 2<sup>nd</sup> Training school + Workshop – to select grantees
- **Report from the 1st Training school in Trieste** by Prof. Sabrina Pricl.
  - 10 leading scientists from industry and academia as trainers.
  - 54 participants from many European countries.
  - 3 Poster prizes were awarded.
  - All WG topics were covered
  - Excellent questionnaire-based feedback were received from the participants.

## 9. Progress report of working groups

A working group 1 (WG 1) meeting was organized in Funchal, Portugal, July 13-14th. According to the objectives of the Memorandum of Understanding, the Action is soon about to fulfill the 1st year deliverables by Working Group 1 (<https://www.nano2clinic.eu/wg1-deliverables>):

- 'Protocols and recipes for computer-assisted design/optimization of nanomaterials' (Delivered).
- 'Chemical protocols, pathways and mechanisms for the synthesis of new nanomaterials' (Delivered)
- 'Roadmap and consensus protocols for cost reduction, yield optimization and reproducibility of the relevant nanomedicines' (New deadline for delivery, January 2020)
- 'Roadmap and consensus protocols for GMP production of chemical entities and nanomedicines' (Delivered)

## 10. Scientific planning

Working Group 2 will be responsible for two deliverables of 2020:

- 'Consensus protocols for full physio-chemical characterization of new/existing chemical entities and/or Nanomaterials.'

- 'Roadmap and consensus protocols for controlling of selected new/existing chemical entities and/or Nanomaterials.

### **11. Location and date of next meeting + AOB**

Proposals to host and organize the events for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grant period (2020) are welcomed:

- MC meeting: According to EC COST Officer Dr. Lucia Forzi, the MC meetings should preferentially be joined together with the Training school or the working group meeting in order to not constrain the budget.
- WG 2 meeting: To prepare and initiate work with the 2<sup>nd</sup> year deliverables
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Training school + STSM workshop: It was decided that STSMs should be given the opportunity to present their results through a workshop integrated in the training school. The MC meeting invited MC members to organize the next training school: Proposals should be sent to the STSM committee and contain information about date, location, and estimated costs.
- The proposals in the form of a Questionnaire (will be located on the website) should be sent to the Chair and Vice-chair.

### **12. Summary of MC decisions**

Two important decisions: First, the leaderships roles were increased by involving ECIs as Vice-Working group leaders. Second, the choices of next events of the Action will be kept transparent by inviting proposals from MC members to host and organize them. The best proposals will be chosen by the core group.

### ***Closing***

Meeting ended 10.45