Opportunities for Changes in Governance of Biomedical Innovations
Choosing Your Battles

Anna Harrington-Morozova
Scientific and Regulatory Director
Regem Consulting Ltd

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Technology paved the way for greater public impact on policies.

... had enough of experts...
Real influence is not about following existing trends but about making new ones.

Are Public and Experts Growing Apart?

With such trend, what is our chance for innovative future?

#public+experts
#experts+public
100 Nobel laureates urge Greenpeace to end opposition to genetically modified organisms

“it’s easy to see what Greenpeace is doing is damaging and anti-science”
While both parties are protesting ...

...LD50 test is still used for routine batch release for pharmaceuticals. After it was done once in the US it has to be repeated again in the EU because regulators could not agree which method of slaughtering animals is more humane. The pharmacists who could flag this issue, risk to loose employment if found talking to animal activists.

...EU authorities ban animal testing for all cosmetic ingredients and products, providing there is an alternative method. Scientists who develop these alternative methods remain to be a target of the animal activists.
Public against Experts = Stagnation in innovation and no development of new policies
Are patients and FDA at war?

• If so, why for the last 20 years has FDA been actively fostering patient engagement in risk benefit evaluation of new medicine?

Has FDA lost?

• Or FDA received an answer to their question – how much risk associated with experimental treatments are patients willing to take?
Is **ACTIVISM** **always** bad?

influencing via opposing policy makers

Is **ADVOCACY** **always** good?

influencing via cooperation with policy makers

**NO,**

both are equally useful tools which have to be used depending on how good or bad is the policy
• In 2005 National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) withdrawn NHS funding for Alzheimer Disease treatment with Aricept, Reminyl and Exelon.

• in 2006 NICE allowed the treatment only for moderate to severe stages of AD

• As a result of the first legal challenge against NICE made by Eisai with support of Alzheimer Society, from June 2011 Alzheimer’s drugs became available for people with mild to moderate Alzheimer's Disease
Public with Experts = Relationship which fosters innovation and valuable input to new policies
Futurist Agenda in Biomedical Field

- Legal support for self-experimentation with nootropics
- Making longevity politically mainstream
- Political future of genetic enhancements
- Legal steps towards cryonics
- ........

How much support from subject matter experts could be received for each policy goal?