



Dear Colleagues,

## UKNSCN INTERIM BULLETIN – DEADLINE FOR UKNSCN CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

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## [1] PLACES FILLING FAST FOR UKNSCN CONFERENCE IN NOTTINGHAM 12-14 JULY – REGISTRATION DEADLINE 22 JUNE

Delegate places are now filling fast for the third UKNSCN annual conference in Nottingham from 12-14 July and the trade exhibition is now **full** with all 42 stands taken. The deadline for [on-line registration](#) is **12 noon on Tuesday 22 June**, after which prospective delegates should contact the UKNSCN's conference organiser Dynamic Events Ltd on (01797) 223626, or send e-mail to [ro.hallam@dynamic-events.co.uk](mailto:ro.hallam@dynamic-events.co.uk). The final programme for the conference is attached for information.

Poster presenters should note that they have been given a few more days to submit their abstracts to Dynamic Events Ltd in order to be included in the plenary speaker competition and also for their abstracts to be included in the official conference booklet. One relevant abstract per plenary session will be selected by the Programme Steering Group for a 15-minute presentation. The revised deadline for submitting poster abstracts is now **5pm on Wednesday 9 June**.

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## [2] AMS REVIEW OF THE REGULATION AND GOVERNANCE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH IN THE UK

The Academy of Medical Sciences (AMS) has been commissioned by the UK Government to conduct an independent review of the regulation and governance of medical research in the UK. The AMS has issued the attached call for evidence, which closes at **5pm on Tuesday 1 June**. Evidence is sought from all organisations and individuals with an involvement or interest in the regulatory and governance framework around medical research. This may include medical research scientists from all sectors, including industry; medical research charities; research funders and regulators; patients and their representatives; and the general public.

Evidence should be submitted (preferably electronically) to Dr Robert Frost at: [robert.frost@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:robert.frost@acmedsci.ac.uk).

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## [3] SECOND PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON DRAFT EU GUIDELINES FOR GMP FOR MEDICINAL PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN USE

On 19 April, the European Commission launched its second public consultation on the [draft Annex 2](#) to the EU Guidelines for GMP for Medicinal Products for Human and Veterinary Use. UKNSCN members are invited to be aware of this consultation, which lasts three months and closes on 15 July 2010, and to provide comments as appropriate via the e-mail addresses given at the link above. Annex 2 is proposed to be revised as a consequence of the restructuring of the GMP guide, the increased breadth of biological products to include several new product types such as transgenic derived products and the Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (ATMPs) together with associated new legislation. Significant changes have also been made as a result of the comments received from the first consultation.

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## [4] DIVISIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE UK'S MHRA

For anyone unfamiliar with the [divisional structure](#) of the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), as it relates to the stem cell research and translation field, you might like to follow the link to read about the Clinical Trials Unit (which resides within the **Licensing Division**) or the work of the **Inspections, Enforcement and Standards Division**.

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## [5] LATEST UK APPOINTMENTS IN STEM CELL RESEARCH AND TRANSLATION

You are reminded that the UKNSCN offers a free advertising service via its website for UK-based appointments in stem cell science and translation. Simply send on a PDF flyer detailing vacancies to the UKNSCN's Executive Director and we will do the rest. Further [new vacancies](#) have recently been posted to the website, so you are invited to take a look.

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## [5] US RESEARCHERS DERIVE INNER EAR HAIR CELLS FROM MURINE ESCs AND iPSCs

From studies recently reported in the journal *Cell*, US researchers at the University of Stanford School of Medicine have successfully derived inner ear hair cells from mouse embryonic stem cells and induced pluripotent stem cells (derived from skin cells). If this research can be reproduced using hESCs and particularly patient-derived iPSCs, it would present a very useful model for understanding the dysfunction of these cells in hearing loss. Further information is available on-line in a recent issue of [BioNews](#).

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Yours sincerely,

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