Fostering and Regulating Translational Research: A Global Perspective

Mary Harney, TD Tánaiste and Minister for Health and Children Government of Ireland

In her speech the Deputy Prime Minister will set out the approach the Irish Government is taking to facilitate the development of translational medicine. She will place this in the context of Ireland's ambitious programme to develop as a world centre for R&D, particularly in the areas of Biotechnology and Information Technology.

While Ireland recognises the huge potential offered by translational medicine to improve outcomes for patients and spur economic development, it also recognises that there are important issues that have to be addressed if the potential is to be realised. These include, manpower resources and flexibility, intellectual property protection, research infrastructure and coordination of funding. Ms. Harney will consider how these are being addressed in the Irish context.