



Comité économique et social européen
European Economic and Social Committee

Research and Personalised Medicine

Ineke Klinge

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Chair Horizon 2020 Advisory Group for Gender

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Celebrating 21 Years of Setting the Agenda in Women's Health



Importance of the topic



- *The quality and accountability of research is affected negatively when sex and gender is not taken into account. Integrating sex and gender analysis (the gender dimension) in research and innovation is an essential aspect of research excellence. It increases the societal relevance of the knowledge produced, as well as technologies and innovations. It also contributes to the production of goods and services better suited to potential markets.*
- *Many science funding bodies now have issued policies to address sex and gender related factors in biomedical and health research. Tools for researchers and evaluators have been developed.*

Celebrating 21 Years of Setting the Agenda in Women's Health

What are the main challenges in Europe at the moment?

1. *Drug development: integrating age and sex in drug development and testing for adults*
2. *Differences in weighting the evidence between regulatory bodies*
3. *Research: how do we see the relationship between Gender Medicine and personalised or precision medicine?*

Recommendations

1. Where do we go from here?
2. *Drug trials: phase 1&2:*
 - include 50% women*
 - include women over 70*
 - collect hormone status*
 - 4 more recs and recs for phase 3 and postmarketing*
(Tannenbaum & Matera Alliance, 2017)
3. *Research:*
 - provide/ require training for peer reviewers and evaluators to improve gender competency*
 - consider bonuses for proposals that include sex and gender analysis*
 - invest in the younger generation (curricula)*