



ACADEMIA ENGELBERG

Wednesday, 14th of September 2011

Commencement of the 10th Dialogue of Science of the Academia Engelberg Foundation

Personalized medicine: chances and risks

In the near future, the complete human genome will be readily available. If the correlations with the characteristics of the own organism can be fully identified, higher individual diagnoses and treatments will be possible.

Might Google and Microsoft be the leading health care companies in 2020? Thus, the revolution in DNA sequencing coincides with an emergence of online data repositories and personal health portals. Individuals will soon be able to contribute not only their personal genome, but also their health and medical records to medical research. The Academia Engelberg Foundation launches a scientific discussion and asks the challenging question: Where are we and where are we going to?

Medicine at the turning point

Starting from today, over 150 renowned personalities from science, industry, culture, politics and society from all over the world will discuss the opportunities of personalized medicine. They will also explore how the availability of patient data can contribute to better treatments and what ethical, legal and economic aspects have to be taken into account.

Bridge between science and society

Fundamental scientific findings are likely to meet strong reservations and encounter mistrust among the general public. The Academia Engelberg Foundation (www.academia-engelberg.ch) contributes its share to the creation of a new foundation of trust through interdisciplinary dialogue between the scientific community and the general public. Every autumn, personalities from science, industry, culture, politics and society meet in Engelberg, Switzerland. In addition to this, projects are carried out and follow-up events are organized as results of the conference.

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Media Relations

Photos, texts and videos on the conference are continuously available at http://www.academia-engelberg.ch/konferenz_2011.php5

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