



Sino-EU PerMed Workshop on ethical legal and social aspects

The Sino-EU PerMed project recently held its final workshop in Guangzhou, China on 18 April 2024. This workshop focused on exploring the ethical, legal, and social aspects of personalised medicine in the collaboration between Europe and China. Experts from both regions came together to share their insights on this interdisciplinary topic.

Throughout the workshop, examples from China and Europe were presented and discussed in relation to ethical, legal, and societal considerations. The event featured keynote and impulse talks, as well as in-depth discussions. The outcomes and conclusions of the workshop will be summarised in an ELSA Policy Brief that will be developed following the Sino-EU PerMed Clover Leaf Tour.

A key focus of the discussions was on the legal regulation of data use and sharing, which is crucial for the development of new treatments, patient healthcare, and international collaborations. Participants explored the current legal landscape in Europe and China, as well as strategies to facilitate cross-border collaborations and overcome legal barriers.

The workshop also delved into the growing fields of big data and Artificial Intelligence (AI) in personalised medicine. Ethical questions surrounding the use of AI, such as control over AI tools and building trust among healthcare providers and patients, were highlighted for further exploration.

Additionally, the role of ethical review boards in regulating data generation and usage, particularly in the context of Sino-EU collaborations, was discussed. The workshop also addressed concerns about potential inequalities in access to personalised healthcare options and ways in which Europe and China are working towards ensuring equitable access.

Lastly, the workshop emphasized the importance of active patient and citizen involvement in personalized medicine, particularly in preventive care initiatives. Strategies to communicate the benefits of personalised medicine and foster collaboration within ethical boundaries were explored.

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