

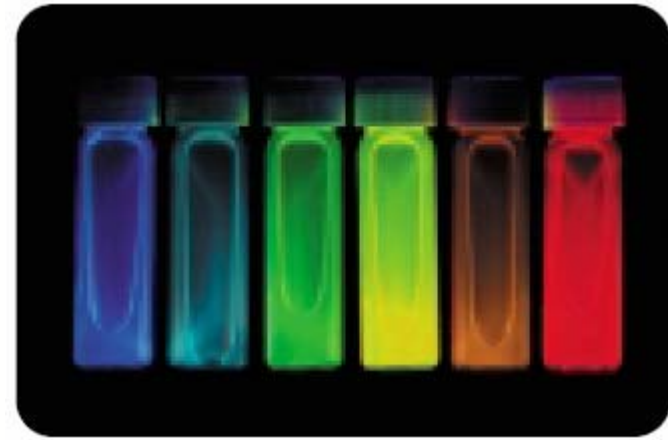
UK views on research needs to enable risk assessment of nanomaterials

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UK Government

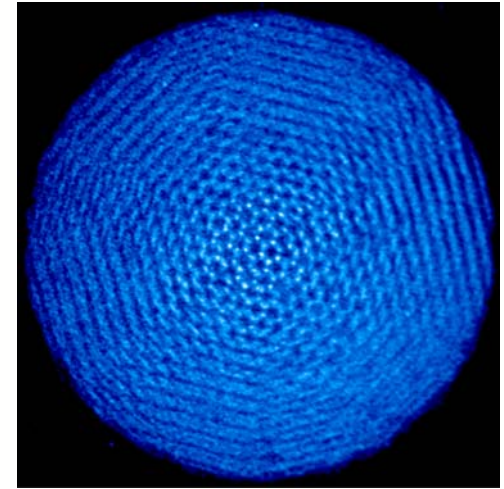


Background



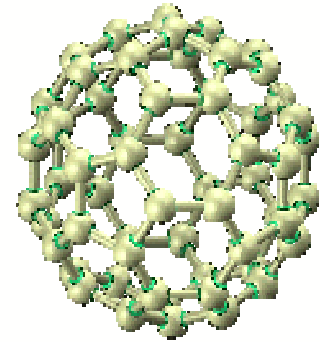
- July 2004 RS/RAEng report
- February 2005 UK Government commits to developing a programme of science for evidence based policy development
- November 2005 First research report

Report sets out 19 key science objectives for characterising risks of engineered nanoparticles in 4 themes



1. Understanding the social and ethical dimensions of nanotechnologies
2. Metrology and characterisation
3. Understanding human and environmental exposure
4. Understanding human and environmental hazards

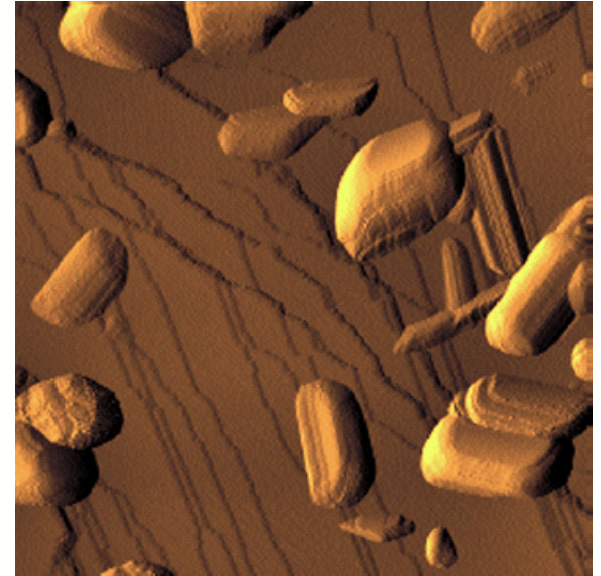
Urgent first steps



FIRST

- Metrology and characterisation: What and how
- Key is the need to develop international standard reference materials

Urgent first steps

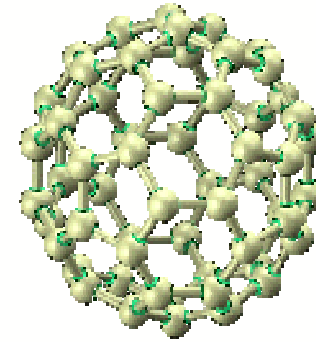


Development of risk assessment methodologies:

- SCENIHR report
- US international life sciences Institute Research Foundation assessment

A harmonised approach by OECD and ISO would be welcomed.

Conclusions



- Evidence based proportionate policy development will depend on key science objectives
- Risk assessment methodologies and standard reference materials required urgently