Public dialogue findings

- Germany

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Public Dialogue on Genome Editing – Germany

- New audience (n=29)
- Attitudes before the event: > 1/3 comfortable, 1/3 uncomfortable, rest unsure
- Limited knowledge in key life-science concepts





Views of key challenges facing society



Food Supply

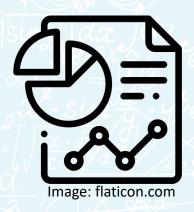
Poverty in Old Age

Climate Change

Health Issues







Results Public Dialogue

- High trust, interest in science and technology
- Potential and hope to solve present and future societal challenges
- Concerns and fears: Regulations & who will benefit?
- Genome editing meet with strong acceptancy for medical purposes
- Germline (heritable) genome editing: initially positive then more sceptical





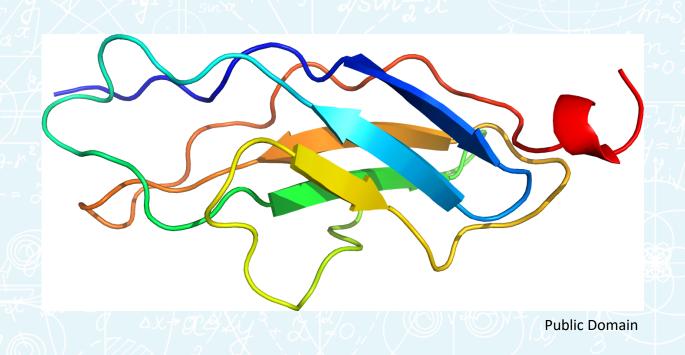
Case Study 1: Converting skin cells into egg cells (to save the northern white rhino)

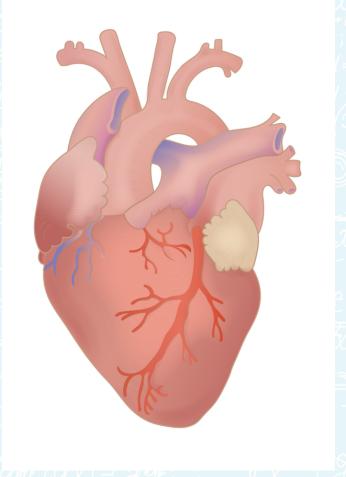






Case Study 2: How does titin affect heart growth?





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Conclusions & Recommendations

Communicate about ethical standards, highlighting that regulations are in place to prevent rising inequalities





Talk about benefits and drawbacks to show diverse perspectives to make it easier for public to understand impact on society

Use easy to understand language to help people feel included and not left behind



learning in the public dialogue

Participants found GE techniques

Participants

liked asking

questions,

forming

opinions and

found GE
techniques
challenging to
understand
and needed
support from
experts

Be transparent about the work MDC and ORION does. Build trust by being authentic and honest about possible challenges

Participants
wanted ethical
standards
enforced and
for tech to be
accessible to
all

Conclusions drawn from German public dialogue events

= recommendations for MDC and ORION partnership

Scientists



Comms and engagement

Policy Makers

Management 6

Understanding
how research is
done and how
tech works
increases trust –
can be achieved
with
communication

A better
understanding
of the
technology led
to more
enthusiasm
about its impact
on society

Participants
wanted
reassurance
that there will
be control of
the tech
through

regulation

It was not always clear why the different applications and areas of research were important Support international regulations of the tech and show you are standing up for these





Show the importance of each different areas of research by giving reasons for why MDC/ORION feel research is needed

Manage public expectations as whilst enthusiasm is positive, people should be clear on what is realistically going to be achieved in the near future



