

Life Sciences

Intellectual property

With very long lead times from inception to market, few other sectors face the same challenges when it comes to IP protection. IP is often among the most valuable assets in the life sciences industry, and Royds Withy King handles all aspects of the IP lifecycle, including the protection, exploitation and defence and enforcement of IP rights.

Points to consider:

- Patents and supplementary protection certificates
- Know-how and trade secrets
- Regulatory data protection
- Branding and trade marks.

Licensing and commercial agreements

Commercial agreements covering the development, transfer and commercialisation of technology are essential to the life sciences sector. Our Life Sciences team has significant experience gained in private legal practice and in the pharmaceutical industry of drafting all relevant agreements including:

- Research & development agreements
- Licensing agreements and technology transfer agreements
- Maximisation of the IP rights and the royalty streams
- Field of use licensing
- Manufacturing and distribution agreements
- Technology transfer agreements
- Confidentiality agreements
- Material transfer agreements.

Regulatory

The life sciences sector is among the most heavily regulated in the world. The combined experience of our team gives us a unique insight into the regulatory issues facing businesses in the UK and abroad.

Points to consider:

- Marketing authorisations
- Product life cycle strategies
- Advertising
- Parallel imports
- Product assessment by NICE and the NHS
- NHS procurement procedures and tendering processes.

Financial transactions

Funding is essential for many life sciences businesses. We have significant expertise in preparing and negotiating investment agreements and assisting businesses with the due diligence process involved. We also frequently advise on buying and selling businesses and have great experience in reviewing, drafting and negotiating all the relevant agreements, including advising on the processes involved, including:

- Investment agreements
- Due diligence
- Exit planning
- Mergers and acquisitions.



Claus Andersen, Partner
Head of Life Sciences sector team

020 7842 1462
claus.andersen@roydswithyking.com

We understand that for fast-moving, highly innovative life sciences businesses, tailored legal solutions that keep you one step ahead are a must.

Our multi-disciplinary team of specialist lawyers has an in-depth understanding of the commercial needs and wider issues affecting businesses in your sector. We will help you to protect your interests and secure future opportunities for growth. Whether you are looking for advice on intellectual property, investment, funding, regulatory issues, premises or employment, our proactive approach will deliver solutions that are right for you.

Whichever stage you are at on your business journey - whether you are just getting started, operating as a robust organisation and expanding through investment, or looking to make an exit - we will provide you with advice on corporate structures, investment and fundraising, joint ventures, shareholder agreements, M&As and MBOs.

Your ideas and products, as well as the data you collect, give you the edge. We will help you develop commercial agreements so that you can generate revenue from your intellectual property. We will help you to protect your ideas and products, and if they are misused or misappropriated by employees or third parties, we will advise and act on your behalf to achieve the best and most cost-effective outcomes.

On the talent side, we will support you with all areas of employment law throughout the lifecycle of your business, including recruitment, IP, disputes, immigration and work visas.

Our clients include start-up companies, public sector organisations, universities, multinationals, and well-established businesses in the pharmaceutical, biotech and medical devices industries.

With us by your side, you won't just know where you stand, but where you are going next and when you are likely to get there.

Investment advice for Oxford Genetics

Our team advised Oxford Genetics, a leader in innovative synthetic biology-based technologies, on a £7.5m investment into its operations in the US and the UK. This included dealing with the terms of the investment agreement with Mercia Technologies PLC, an existing investor, and new investors Invesco Perpetual, one of the largest investment managers in the UK. This was a strategic investment for Oxford Genetics that will help it to innovate in cell and gene therapy, fund a new office in Boston and allow it to significantly expand its operations. We have thoroughly enjoyed working with Oxford Genetics and bringing our specialist knowledge and experience of syndicated growth investment deals to the table.

"Working with Royds Withy King on this deal was great, they supported Oxford Genetics throughout and helped us negotiate this strategic investment that will allow us to significantly expand our operations. Having a lawyer who responded to emails at 6am on our closing day was pretty reassuring!"

Ryan Cawood
CEO of Oxford Genetics

