



Biotechnology Group

We understand your business

Life sciences and healthcare is one of the world's fast-growing markets. Biotechnology and genetic engineering are powerful drivers in this dynamic field, promoting the development of innovative products. In turn, legislators are responding with new laws and guidelines with which to regulate the sector.

In this environment, Taylor Wessing's biotechnology group has built on its market-leading reputation in IP services to create an integrated team of specialists able to meet the diverse needs of the full range of organisations working in the biotechnology sector.

Our biotechnology team has broad industry knowledge through

- Handling ground breaking patent litigation
- Innovative transactional deals
- In-house experience
- Relevant scientific expertise

The team in the UK includes a core of 13 lawyers all with relevant scientific backgrounds, five with PhDs and three with relevant industry experience.

No other law firm is in a position to offer its clients throughout the biotechnology "value chain" first-rate legal advice in relation to every aspect of their requirements. The team's expertise ranges from regulatory issues to patent litigation and contract disputes, venture capital financing to IPOs and healthcare infrastructure, and licensing to commercialisation, whether those companies be small 'start-ups' or large 'multi-nationals'. In addition membership of numerous professional and industry associations ensures we are fully in touch with the latest developments in case law and legislation.

What others say about us

Our client-focused, partner-driven approach has resulted in the life Sciences & Healthcare Group and its members being described as "outstanding", "leading authorities", "acknowledged experts" and "highly rated" in the latest editions of independent directories such as Chambers, PLC Global Counsel and Global 500

"Taylor Wessing is trusted by client's around the world to deliver success through an outstanding partner driven service"
Legal 500

"Taylor Wessing has been voted 'European Life Science IP Firm of the year'"
Managing Intellectual Property Global Awards 2008

The team is top ranked in the latest editions of the following guides:
PLC Cross-Border Life Sciences Handbook
Legal 500: Pharmaceutical & Biotech and Venture Capital
Chambers UK: Life Sciences, Venture Capital and Patent Litigation

Taylor Wessing has been voted "UK Contentious IP Firm of the Year"
Managing Intellectual Property Global Awards 2009

Taylor Wessing named "law firm of the year"
European Venture Capital Journal

The team



Simon Cohen
Partner

Head of patents group (UK)

Simon has a degree in Biochemistry and Genetics from the University of London. Simon is on the editorial committee of Bioscience Law Review and regularly writes and lectures on issues of concern to the biotechnology sector. He specialises in patent litigation, licensing and regulatory work and has acted in a number of the landmark UK biotechnology patent cases..



Dr Malcolm Bates
Partner

Head of the life sciences and healthcare group (UK)

Malcolm has a degree in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry from Durham University and a Ph.D in Molecular Biology from Imperial College, London. He was previously Vice President and General Counsel at Genset in Paris. Malcolm advises a broad range of companies in the biotechnology sector on all aspects of licensing and collaboration work, on regulatory issues and on the commercial and intellectual property aspects of M&A deals, financing transactions and IPOs.



Dr Gareth Morgan
Partner

Gareth has a degree in Biochemistry and a DPhil in Molecular Biology, both from Oxford University. Gareth has in-house experience working at UCB and Novartis (UK). Gareth sits on the Bioindustry Association's intellectual property advisory committee (IPAC) and is a member of UK Stem Cell Steering Committee's working party. He has acted in complex biotechnology patent and contract litigation; and also advises clients on commercial agreements, and medicinal regulatory law.



Helen Cline
Professional Support Lawyer

Helen has a degree in Natural Sciences (Genetics) from Trinity College, Dublin and a Masters in Law and Science from the University of London. She regularly writes on legal issues of concern to the biotechnology sector and is on the editorial committee of Bioscience Law Review. Helen is the editor of our life sciences and healthcare publication, InFocus.



Tim Worden
Senior Associate

Tim has a degree in Natural Sciences (Chemistry and Biochemistry) from Cambridge University. Tim was previously Legal Counsel and Company Secretary at Eli Lilly and Company Limited.



Edward Vickers
Senior Associate

Edward has a degree in Natural Sciences from Cambridge University.



Dr Yohan Liyanage
Senior Associate

Yohan has a degree in Natural Sciences (Biochemistry) from Cambridge University and a doctorate in Neuroscience from Oxford University.



Dr Matthew Royle
Associate

Matthew has a degree in Medical Microbiology from Edinburgh University and a PhD in Medical Microbiology from Cambridge University.



Colin McCall
Associate

Colin has a degree in Cell Biology from Durham University.



Catherine Drew
Associate

Catherine has a degree in Natural Sciences (Pathology) from Cambridge University.



Helen Austin
Associate

Helen has a degree in Biochemistry from Imperial College, University of London.



Dr Saufung Ma
Associate

Saufung has a degree in Biochemistry from Oxford University and a PhD in Molecular Biology and Medicine from Imperial College.