Life Sciences

HIGHLIGHTS

- One of the Largest Life Sciences Practices in the U.S.
  Wilson Sonsini’s life sciences practice is one of the largest in the U.S., with more than 275 professionals, including attorneys, patent agents, and scientific advisors.

- Our Attorneys Act as Strategic General Counsel, Advising on a Comprehensive Scope of Business Operations and Issues
  Wilson Sonsini’s attorneys often act as strategic general counsel, drawing from their broader scope of experience and advising on matters beyond patents and IP.

- A Nationally Recognized and Ranked Life Sciences Practice

- Recent Wins + Recognition: 2022 LMG Life Sciences Awards
  At the 2022 LMG Life Sciences Awards, Wilson Sonsini was named “Hatch-Waxman Litigation Firm of the Year – Generic,” and was also recognized under “Hatch-Waxman Impact Cases of the Year” for its work on Celgene v. Mylan (Federal Circuit, 2021), “Patent Impact Cases of the Year” for its work on ModernaTx v. Arbutus (Federal Circuit, 2021), and “Impact Deals of the Year – United States” for its role in Sanofi’s $6.15 billion collaboration with IGM Biosciences. Additionally, Wilson Sonsini partners Jennifer Fang, T.O. Kong, Vern Norviel, and Michael Rosato received recognition in individual categories.

OVERVIEW

Wilson Sonsini’s life sciences practice is anchored by a diverse team of attorneys, patent agents, and scientific advisors, more than 100 of whom hold Ph.D.s and have significant industry experience. The team also includes an internationally recognized leader in the field...
of technology transfer, former in-house legal counsel for major life sciences companies, and former senior officials at U.S. federal agencies, such as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB).

The firm has a 60-plus year history of working closely with entrepreneurs, scientists, and investors who trust Wilson Sonsini’s strategic advice to establish and realize their companies’ business objectives, which includes protecting and leveraging their most valuable intellectual property assets. We represent life sciences companies through the entire business life cycle, from formation through IPO and strategic partnerships. We are committed to cultivating long-lasting relationships with our clients, where we often act as outside general counsel with support from our cross-functional global life sciences team to provide coordinated and comprehensive counsel in furtherance of our clients’ business interests.

Our clients include thousands of innovation-focused life sciences companies, research institutions, start-up accelerators and incubators, and the venture capital funds and banks that finance this industry. A central pillar of our life sciences practice is our longstanding representation of medical device and biopharmaceutical companies, entrepreneurs, and investors, which dates back to these industries’ inception.

Our work on behalf of our life sciences clients includes:

- Acting as trusted advisors to 200+ publicly traded and 1,000+ private life sciences companies
- Completing hundreds of public offerings and M&A transactions with a combined value of more than $85 billion
- Raising 1,100+ venture rounds totaling over $11 billion
- Counseling hundreds of life sciences companies on structuring strategic commercial collaborations

Our team has deep experience in nearly every field of medicine and healthcare, including oncology, cell and gene therapies, genetics, precision medicine, immunology, ophthalmology, neuroscience, and preventive healthcare. Our experience includes the application of emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence and machine learning as well as data analytics, across the life sciences sector. We work in cutting-edge areas of science and healthcare innovation, including therapeutics, medical devices, digital health, diagnostics, and tools.

Our work with life sciences companies to help them develop and implement their business strategies encompasses:

- **Patents and Innovation Strategy** – We help founders of growing life sciences companies formulate actionable business strategies focused on building and protecting robust and valuable patent portfolios, while also advising established companies on the protection of groundbreaking discoveries.
- **Life Sciences Commercial and Technology Transactions** – We represent clients in complex commercial and other technology and licensing transactions, including bet-the-company complex commercial collaborations and their foundational intellectual property licenses.
- **Corporate** – We address the broad corporate needs of our life sciences clients, including helping them raise private and public capital and advising them on their most complicated M&A structures. The firm has represented companies in more venture financing transactions than any other U.S. law firm.
- **Life Sciences Business Advisory Practice** – We offer unique and innovative business advisory capabilities that complement the firm’s outstanding legal counseling services. Our business advisory practice supports emerging as well as established life sciences companies in executing their business strategies, including crafting and enhancing their business plans, raising capital, recruiting and retaining their teams, and structuring, negotiating, and managing strategic transactions.
- **FDA Regulatory, Healthcare, and Consumer Products** – We advise our life sciences clients on regulatory strategies for their products and services, including representing them in regulatory matters before the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), and other federal and state consumer protection agencies.
- **Intellectual Property Litigation** – We represent life sciences companies in a broad range of intellectual property and complex litigation, including patent, trade secret, trademark, and copyright matters.