BIOTECHNOLOGY AND LIFE SCIENCES
PATENT ATTORNEYS • TRADE MARK ATTORNEYS
Your intellectual property assets are of great value to you. To help you to secure, protect and exploit them, you need technical experts who are also creative problem solvers. You need a team of specialists working together to pool their knowledge and resources in support of your business goals.

J A Kemp is a leading UK and European Patent and Trade Mark Attorney firm that combines independent thinking with collective excellence.

Whichever area of the biotechnology and life sciences spectrum you occupy, we have the technical expertise and breadth and depth of resources to help you to protect and exploit your intellectual property.

J A Kemp has one of the strongest concentrations of biotechnology and life sciences patent expertise in Europe.

We represent clients in technology areas as diverse as antibodies and biologics, diagnostics and personalised medicine, plant science, regenerative medicine, and vaccines and immunology. For many clients our work crosses over into pharmaceuticals, or into specialised areas requiring complementary technical skills, such as medical devices and bioinformatics.

Our work is often right at the cutting edge of science, including inventions originating in prestigious universities and commercialised by their technology transfer arms. We work with many startup, spinout and scale-up businesses as well as large corporations.

We have particular strength in handling oppositions and appeals at the European Patent Office relating to biotechnology and life sciences subject matter, often in multi-party cases. Our litigation and dispute resolution team has the technical expertise to handle and support life sciences and biotechnology cases in the courts in the UK and elsewhere.

We also have a team that handles Supplementary Protection Certificates (SPCs) with expertise in life sciences and biotechnology. This is of increasing importance as more biotech drugs come on to the market.

“J A Kemp boasts one of the UK’s most highly qualified collections of attorneys.”
Our specialisms of particular relevance to clients in the biotechnology and life sciences field include the following areas.

**ANTIBODIES, BIOLOGICS AND PHARMACEUTICALS**

Therapeutic monoclonal antibodies are increasing in importance as approvals for antibody drugs proliferate, alongside well-established biotherapeutics such as vaccines and other biologics. Biosimilar products are becoming a reality as early innovations in this field come off-patent. We have a depth of expertise and experience in all these areas.

J A Kemp also has a very strong complement of attorneys specialising in patent issues relating to small molecule pharmaceuticals. Obtaining patent protection for pharmaceuticals and biopharmaceuticals presents unique challenges, and we are experienced in drafting and prosecuting patent applications for both new molecular entities and downstream innovations such as formulations, processes, polymorphs and new combinations of known active ingredients.

Our knowledge of the varied practices adopted by Patent Offices throughout the world is of particular relevance to pharmaceutical patents, and the principles established in the small molecule area are often relevant to our practice in the biopharmaceuticals area.

**DIAGNOSTICS AND PERSONALISED MEDICINE**

We draft, file and prosecute numerous cases covering all aspects of diagnostics and personalised medicine. These include cases directed to methods of diagnosis, sequencing technology, reagents, kits and biomarkers, as well as medical devices and chemical aspects such as chemical indicators for diagnostic sensors.

Patent practice in this area crosses over into medical technology, and J A Kemp has particular expertise in the medical device field. Our specialist team’s strong familiarity with both the relevant case law and the medical technology itself can make a significant difference to the outcome of patent prosecution in areas such as medical imaging and monitoring.

**PLANT SCIENCE AND AGRICULTURE**

Agriculture is an increasingly technology-driven sector in which multiple technical disciplines are integrated. We have expertise in, for example, plant science including transgenic technology and plant breeding, herbicide/pesticide chemistry and agri-tech, as well as in biotechnological issues relating to animal breeding.

We are also active in obtaining Supplementary Protection Certificates for plant protection products and have expertise in plant variety rights.

**VACCINES AND IMMUNOLOGY**

We have a substantial practice dealing with all aspects of immunology. We handle numerous cases concerned with manipulation of the immune response and the use of such technology in the prophylaxis and treatment of disease. Many of the matters we handle relate to vaccines, including vaccine components, adjuvants and administration schedules to maximise the immune response and DNA vaccination. Several members of our team have first degrees and/or PhDs in immunology.

**BIOINFORMATICS**

Many developments in the area of bioinformatics, including in software, are in principle patentable, but dealing with such cases can be challenging because of the multi-disciplinary nature of the technologies involved and the special features of software patentability. J A Kemp is able to combine the outstanding resources of its Biotechnology and Life Sciences Group with the expertise of attorneys in its Engineering and IT Group who have many years of experience in handling patent applications for computer software.

Examples of our work in this field include assisting clients with software for gene sequencing and gene-based diagnostics, mining biological databases, designing therapeutic molecules or modifications to molecules to improve efficacy, extracting information from medical imaging data, and analysing electrical signals in the brain.

“One of the most sophisticated biotech practices in the country.”

Chambers & Partners
ABOUT THE FIRM

We are one of the largest UK and European Patent and Trade Mark Attorney firms, with offices in London, Oxford, Cambridge, Paris and Munich.

The firm is known for the breadth and depth of its technical knowledge relevant to patents. There are over 60 science and technology graduates in J A Kemp, including at least 30 PhDs, and no area of science or technology is outside its scope.

Our trade marks team is led by senior professionals with backgrounds in major international law firms. The team has the expertise and resources to handle any trade marks matter.

We are equipped to handle contentious intellectual property matters in the UK Courts, the Unified Patent Court and the UK and European Intellectual Property Offices, including the EPO. Our litigation and dispute resolution team combines in-depth knowledge of patents, trade marks and designs with the litigation skills of its solicitors, patent attorneys and an in-house barrister to achieve successful outcomes for our clients.

We handle all aspects of design protection in the UK, Europe and worldwide, and we can advise you in other specialised areas such as plant variety rights. We work for a large variety of clients, from startups, spinouts and SMEs through to some of the largest corporations and most prestigious academic institutions in the world.

WHAT WE ARE KNOWN FOR

We commissioned a market research firm to ask 50 of our clients and professional contacts what they thought of J A Kemp. The firm was described as:

“Highly regarded and respected as a leading player in its field”

“Known for quality, reliability, technical excellence and professionalism”

“Considered to be responsive, trusted, friendly and approachable”

“Known for its particular expertise in complex work”

“A firm with a reputation for timeliness and efficiency”

For specific contacts relevant to the work of the Biotechnology and Life Sciences Group or related specialist areas, please refer to our website.

REGENERATIVE MEDICINE

The law surrounding the patenting of this technology, especially stem cells and therapeutic cloning, is complicated and varies in different countries around the world. J A Kemp’s Biotechnology and Life Sciences Group has considerable experience in prosecuting patent applications relating to regenerative medicine and the problems that may be faced in different countries.

“Really outstanding on life sciences patent work, EPO oppositions and technical support for litigation.”

Chambers & Partners