A patent application is filed

Results of search

Further applications can be filed claiming priority

Publication, followed by International search

Application is published

Application enters national/regional phases in chosen countries

Applications typically granted 4 to 10 years after initial priority application

After 20 years the UK patent expires and after 21 years further patents expire

EXAMINATION

4-10 YEARS - GRANT

20 YEARS - UK Patent expires

21 YEARS - Further patents expire

THIS IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY AND IS NOT LEGAL ADVICE