

CANCER RESEARCH UK'S GUIDE TO PATENTS

Cancer Research UK has a dedicated translational support team within Commercial Partnerships, based regionally across the UK. We have extensive expertise spanning research translation, drug discovery, preclinical and clinical development.

We meet with you to understand your work's potential for translation. There are many ways to translate your work including licencing it to a company, spinout, collaboration, or publication. Whichever translational route you decide on, you'll need an intellectual property (IP) strategy to maximise the chance of success. Commercial Partnerships has over 20 years in experience; we can help you decide the best IP strategy and advise you every step of the way.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Intellectual property (IP) is an intangible asset which is created by the mind.

Intellectual property rights (IPRs) are exclusive legal rights granted to owners for various types of IP. They provide the right to prevent unauthorised use of the IP and, depending on the type of IPR, this may involve preventing any use or just direct and deliberate copying.

Common IP rights include:

- **Patents** protect technical inventions including products and processes
- **Trade marks** protect words, symbols, logos and other designations used to indicate the origin of a product or service
- **Design rights** protect the visual appearance of a product
- **Copyright** protects against reproduction of an original literary, artistic, musical or dramatic work.

For a comprehensive resource on intellectual property visit gov.uk and search keyword "IPO".

Patenting is the most common way to protect IP in life sciences

What are the three things you need for a patent?

- **Novelty** – An invention must be something new or novel, rather than 'prior art'; prior art is everything in the public domain.
- **Inventiveness** – An invention needs to be 'inventive' or non-obvious to someone skilled in the art taking into account the prior art.
- **Usefulness** – An invention must be something that can be made or used.

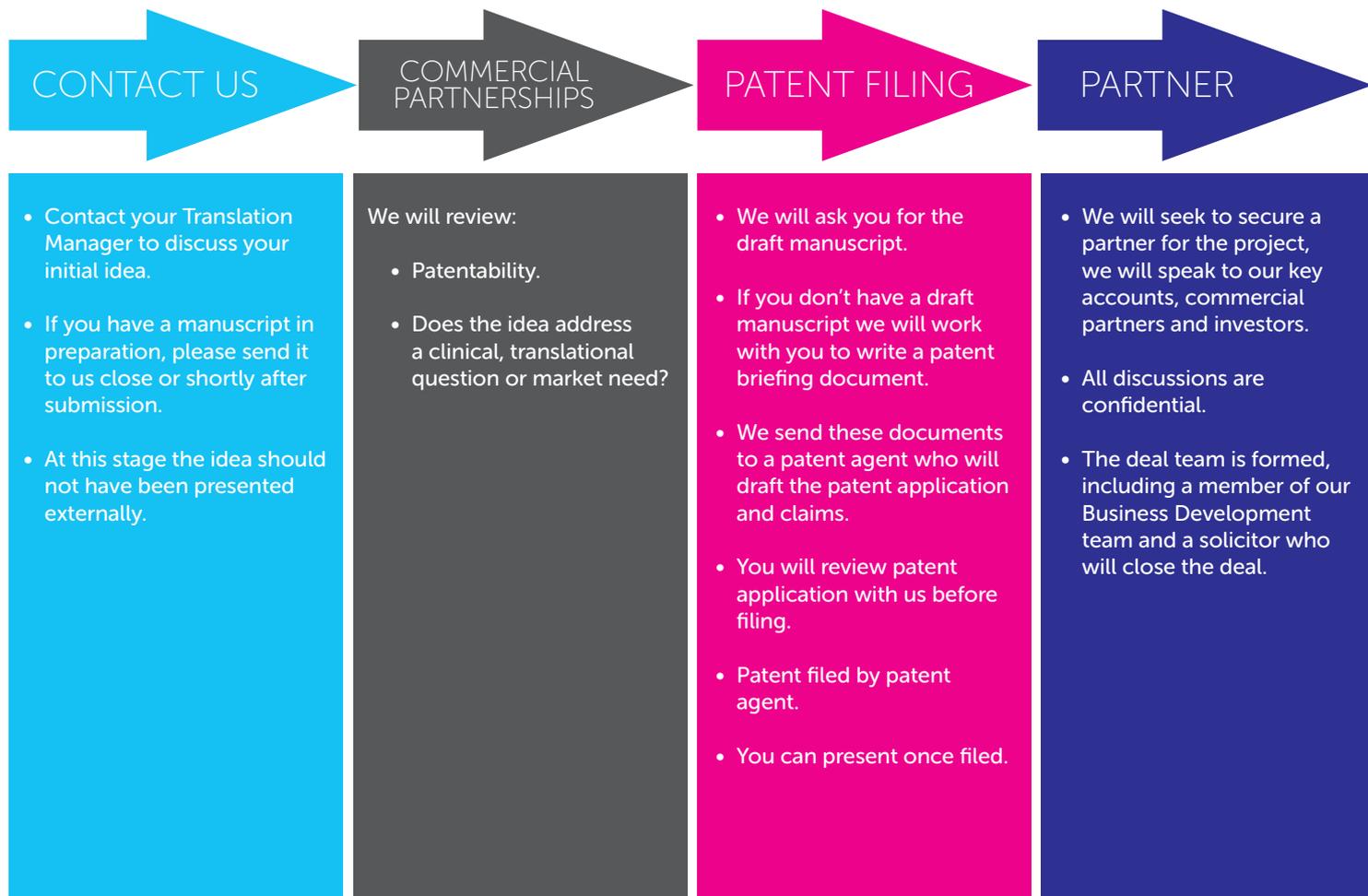
What can you file a patent on?

- New chemical structures
- Complementarity-determining regions in antibodies
- Novel antigens
- Biomarkers
- Second medical use
- Novel combinations
- Scheduling
- Gene expression signatures
- And many more....

If you think your work might have translational potential, contact us as soon as possible. If you present your work, you could destroy a patent position which could be detrimental to the translation of your work. Contact us, or speak to your Tech Transfer Office, who can advise you how best to manage a presentation or disclosure. **We will help you file for a patent, and other types of IP.**

A patent only protects the invention in the country in which it was granted. If protection is required in multiple countries, it will be necessary to obtain a separate patent in each country.

THE PROCESS



CONTACT

If you have any questions about protecting IP contact us at:
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or visit
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Together we will beat cancer

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