## IP Checklist for Drug Discovery Startups



1) Have you identified your core innovations?
Have you clearly defined your novel compounds, methods, or platforms?  Have you assessed what differentiates your innovation from existing solutions?  Have you documented experimental data supporting your innovation?
2) Is your IP strategy aligned with your business goals?
<ul> <li>Do you have an IP strategy that supports your commercial plans?</li> <li>Have you considered WHAT, WHEN, WHERE and HOW in your IP filing strategy?</li> <li>Have you considered trade secrets for protecting technical know-how?</li> </ul>
3) Have you conducted a Freedom to Operate (FTO) analysis?
Have you reviewed existing IP in your target markets?  Have you identified potential infringement risks?  Have you developed a plan to design around or license third-party IP?
4) Are your IP rights properly assigned to your company?
<ul> <li>Do you have signed IP assignments in place?</li> <li>Are you clear on IP ownership in collaborations or academic partnerships?</li> <li>Have you secured rights to use any third-party tools or data?</li> </ul>
5) Are you managing IP-related risks?
Have you implemented confidentiality agreements (NDAs)?  Are you monitoring competitor filings?  Do you have a plan for IP enforcement or dispute resolution?
6) Are you ready to talk IP at ELRIG?
<ul> <li>Have you prepared a non-confidential summary of your innovation?</li> <li>Do you know what you can and cannot disclose publicly?</li> <li>Do you have a plan for follow-up with potential partners or investors?</li> </ul>



## Next steps

## **Completed your IP Checklist?**

Contact our team of attorneys and book a free 1-hour consultation with us to discuss how we can support your IP goals.

## We are able to help you:

- Identify your core innovations
- Align your IP strategy with your business goals
- Understand IP owner rights
- Give you guidance on Freedom to Operate (FTO)
- Identify IP-related risks and how to manage them

Email us at docketing@secerna.com and include ELRIG's Drug Discovery 2025 in the subject line of the email.