

Intellectual Property

A robust and balanced Intellectual Property (IP) framework is vital for research-based biopharmaceutical companies like UCB. Creating and delivering innovative solutions from the lab to patients carries risk and is costly, and very lengthy process, which requires continuously investing into our research & development ecosystem and capabilities. Innovative companies rely on time-limited IP rights to deliver differentiated solutions with unique outcomes for patients, to facilitate access to today's medicines, and to ensure sustainable investment into the cures of tomorrow. UCB's values, approach and commitments to sustainable IP practices are inspired by patients and driven by science.

UCB's Values

Our ambition is to transform the lives of people living with severe diseases, allowing them to live the best life that they can, now and in the future, in a way which is sustainable for UCB, for patients, and for society. We put patients and their individual experiences at the heart of everything we do, including in our IP strategy – from discovery to development to delivery of our medicines.

UCB's Approach

Our approach to IP aspires to be focused, responsible, and enduring for the future. When managing our IP portfolio, we ask ourselves if we are creating value, effectively protecting and maintaining our ability to deliver innovative solutions to patients now and into the future, while contributing to a proportionate, balanced and sustainable IP ecosystem. This means using a robust decision-making framework, which considers patients', society' and UCB's interests at every step of the development of our IP.

Our Commitments

Delivering patient and societal benefit is the guiding principle in our IP practices. We are committed to acting in a responsible and proportionate way when protecting our innovation and resolving our patent disputes. Practically, we implement this vision by selectively applying for and maintaining our IP rights only when there is real patient and societal value in doing so, thereby contributing to a balanced and sustainable IP ecosystem that works for patients, society and UCB.

- We are committed to improving the lives of all our patients globally. We have a focused patent filing policy, which means that we do not file patent applications in least developed countries (LDCs) and low-income countries (LICs), considering the unique needs and challenges of these countries.



Inspired by **patients**.
Driven by **science**.

- We are committed to proactively managing our IP portfolio, so we will seek to license our rights when we can maximize the patient and societal benefits by doing so or relinquish them if they no longer hold the promise of patient and societal value.

At UCB, we believe that IP rights encourage effective and fair competition, both between innovators and with generic and biosimilar medicines that enter the market following loss of exclusivity. These play an important role in the sustainability of health systems and the promotion of a healthy innovation lifecycle. With this in mind, we are committed to using our patent rights in a manner that encourages effective and fair competition that ultimately benefits patients.

We are committed to accessibility of patent information, as we believe that transparency and patent information sharing is important to advance scientific innovation and access. UCB is a signatory of the Patent Information Initiative for Medicines (**Pat-INFORMED**), providing the global health community with easy access to medicine patent information.

You can read more about our values, our approach and our commitments in the IP Principles for Advancing Cures and Therapies (**IP PACT**), of which UCB is a founding member. Signed by around thirty companies, the IP PACT is a ground-breaking declaration which demonstrates not only our company's but our industry's commitment to putting patients at the core of our IP practices.

Additional Resources

To find out more about IP in the pharmaceutical industry and our commitments at UCB please visit the following pages:

- The European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations' **position** on Intellectual Property
- The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America's **position** on Intellectual Property
- The **IP PACT**, signed by UCB
- The Patent Information Initiative for Medicines (**Pat-INFORMED**)

