



Ithaka Newsletter

Focus on Therapeutic Proteins

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Have you read Ithaka's latest Blog?

Since 2009 Paul Rodgers has been publishing his blogs on the Ithaka website on a diverse range of topics:

- [food security;](#)
- [new approaches to stimulating productivity in pharmaceutical R&D;](#)
- [stimulating venture capital in UK Regions;](#)
- [sources of innovation and new models for innovation in the biotech industry.](#)

New blogs are published regularly, take a look at www.ithaka.co.uk

Welcome to the latest edition of Ithaka's occasional newsletter. In this edition we are focusing on therapeutic proteins, particularly therapeutic antibodies.

Therapeutic antibodies represent a major class of biopharmaceuticals: 31 therapeutic antibodies have been approved to date including 7 blockbusters (Avastin, Erbitux, Herceptin, Humira, Lucentis, Remicade and Rituxan) together generating annual revenues in excess of US \$25B.

In recent years Ithaka has developed a significant portfolio of clients and assignments in this area, one in which we employ leading scientific and technical expertise.

In-depth advice

Our understanding of technical and clinical developments in the field and of the IP landscape has been well recognised by a wide range of clients from the USA and Europe in:

- major pharma and biotech corporations;
- investors;
- lawyers;
- emerging companies;
- major research institutions.

Our work in the last two years alone has included more than 10 assignments for clients in all the above categories spanning technical and IP due diligence, IP surveys and advice, portfolio monitoring and strategic advice.

Our Team is also able to offer advice and assistance in the development of therapeutic antibody products from inception to the clinic: design; manufacture and pre-clinical and clinical development process leading to product approval.

Our work includes for example:

- conducting an annual survey of biopharmaceutical products in one particular area of a major research organisation's IP portfolio, providing a current view of new product approvals and late stage clinical progress in the field;
- advice on underlying science and interpretation of IP on an aspect of biopharmaceutical design.

John Adair is Ithaka's lead consultant in therapeutic proteins with nearly 30 years experience of research, pre-clinical development and related consultancy in biopharmaceutical R&D, most notably in protein engineering and including early stage cell line development and production.

During his career John has developed a significant IP portfolio in this area which has led to two licensed products. He has recently co-authored, together with Duncan McGregor, a review chapter on the topic of Protein Engineering for the most recent edition of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (5th ed. Walker & Rapley eds., RSC Publishing 2009).

In late 2009 John attended the European Antibody Congress 2009 in Geneva.

The Ithaka Team also includes Malcolm Rhodes, who has extensive experience in process development, product

development and manufacture of antibodies and Grahaem Brown who has extensive experience of clinical development of IL-1, TNF α , CD22, VEGF and dsDNA antibodies.

John can be contacted at john.adair@ithaka.co.uk or on +44 (0)1740 625270.

Client feedback

Whilst the vast majority of our work in this area is confidential, we are able to offer recent references from senior individuals from significant industry players. We have received some excellent feedback.

"John Adair is an outstanding scientist, he delivered the necessary scientific advice, asked the right questions, provided majority of prior art. This company has instructed the relevant legal team to use John for all future antibody work."

"John is the best in his field, his work is meticulous, timely and high value"

Celebrating in 2010

2010 sees Ithaka celebrating 10 years. The Company was founded in 2000 by Dr Paul Rodgers, initially as an operating division of Ruston Poole International, a leading Life Sciences executive search company specialising in recruiting senior management and Board Directors for the international healthcare, pharmaceutical and bioscience industries. In early 2002, Ithaka was spun out of Ruston Poole and established as an independent company, since which it has continued to grow in size and reputation as an advisory & management business specialising in the commercialisation of life science technologies with specific expertise in :

- Therapeutic proteins;
- Biomarkers, diagnostics & biosensors;
- Life science & biomedical research tools, e.g. proteomics & genomics;
- Regenerative medicine, e.g. cell therapy & stem cells;
- Small molecule drug discovery & development.

See www.ithaka.co.uk

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