

Preface

This book was devised as a tool to help medical device professionals understand and navigate the various intellectual property (IP) issues that could arise when they are seeking to protect and commercialize a medical device invention. The book starts by giving an overview of the pieces needed for a successful medical device company. The next chapter focuses on the tools needed to build a patent portfolio, including U.S. and international patents. From there, the book describes the best way to prepare and leverage your patent portfolio through various forms of funding. The book also touches on freedom to operate and discusses the important issues related to limiting risk of infringement. Patent licensing and monetization is then discussed in detail. Trademarks in the context of medical devices are considered and described. The book concludes with a discussion of the international perspective and a case study providing a lesson for inventors and entrepreneurs.

Our hope is that this book will help inventors, IP professionals—or anyone with an interest in medical device IP—to appreciate the nuances of protecting and launching a medical device in the United States and abroad and to navigate the various issues that will likely arise thereby acting as an important guidebook in understanding and addressing these difficult but important topics.

Disclaimer

The views and opinions expressed herein are those of the individual authors and do not represent the views of the American Bar Association. A professional intellectual property attorney should be consulted for relevant advice.