The interdisciplinary Biotech, Medical Technology and Life Sciences team at Jackson Walker provides legal services to pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical device, medical software, dietary supplement, and cosmetics companies, as well as university technology transfer departments, research institutions and industry associations. Melding crucial legal disciplines in the areas of business, IP, health care, and FDA and other regulatory law, the attorneys in Jackson Walker’s Biotech, Medtech and Life Sciences industry team are well equipped to meet the diverse needs of today’s life sciences enterprises.

Our clients range from established multinational drug and device companies with blockbuster products to smaller biotech start-ups with their first viable products; we serve these clients by applying our understanding of the business concerns of both growing and mature companies. As the discovery, development and commercialization of new pharma and medical devices inventions presents a special area of challenges, we assist our life science and medical technology clients in bringing products to market, financing growth, and meeting the demands of the global market.

The firm’s Biotech, Medtech and Life Sciences practice includes representation of more than 500 companies in biotechnology, biopharmaceuticals, drug discovery technology, medical devices, diagnostics, and health care services, and more than 20 major national educational institutions engaged in the commercialization of these products - bringing science from the lab to the consumer. We regularly advise biotech, medtech and life sciences companies on both public and private equity and debt financings, mergers and acquisitions, technology licensing and contracts, intellectual property protection, government compliance, (including FDA compliance) as well as day-to-day securities and corporate governance matters.

WHAT WE DO:
- Funding & Liquidity Transactions
- Strategic Alliances & Licensing
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Intellectual Property
- Regulatory
- Litigation

TECHNOLOGIES WE REPRESENT:
- Agricultural Sciences
- Biomedical Equipment and Instrumentation
- Biotechnology
- Immunology
- Medical and Dental Devices
- Medical Technology Software
- Molecular Biology
- Microbiology
- Pharmaceuticals
- Veterinary Sciences
Funding & Liquidity Transactions
Our attorneys maintain close ties with venture capital funds and angel investors, and regularly represent biotech, medtech and life sciences companies in the process of securing venture capital and angel-seed financing. We also represent venture capital funds and institutional and individual investors in their investment activities. Additionally, we have substantial experience with alternative funding sources such as the Texas Emerging Technology Fund and STTR and SBIR grants.

We regularly represent biotech, medtech and life sciences companies in business combinations, such as mergers, acquisitions, divestitures and joint ventures, to achieve growth and diversity. These transactions include negotiated purchases and divestitures by public and private life sciences companies, and strategic investment by biotech and medtech companies in emerging companies.

Strategic Alliances & Licensing
We assist many of our clients in structuring, negotiating and implementing strategic alliances with other pharmaceutical or biotechnology companies to optimize the capabilities for research, development and commercialization of new products, and to provide a mechanism to share risks and rewards, expertise and intellectual property. These transactions range from early-stage research platform deals to later-stage co-development and channel and joint marketing collaborations. We assist our medtech and life sciences clients with a broad array of licensing, cross licensing, and other strategic information and rights-sharing relationships. We also represent academic institutions that are out-licensing technology. The variety of transaction structures is extraordinary, and the scope of legal problems typically encountered is often equally broad and requires Jackson Walker’s multidisciplinary approach. Our ability to act as a resource for legal services in a multitude of areas helps accomplish strategic alliances in a coordinated and efficient manner.

Mergers & Acquisitions
We regularly represent biotech, medtech and life sciences companies in business combinations, such as mergers, acquisitions, divestitures and joint ventures, to achieve growth and diversity. These transactions include negotiated purchases and divestitures by public and private life sciences companies, and strategic investment by biotech and medtech companies in emerging companies. Our tax professionals and corporate securities team have extensive experience in public-to-public mergers and combinations, ensuring that liquidity transactions are structured in the most advantageous manner and in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws.

Intellectual Property
To assist life sciences companies with the protection and exploitation of their intellectual property, the firm maintains a dedicated team of intellectual property attorneys led by industry veterans with significant experience securing and defending patent positions. Our team includes members with Ph.D.s and other advanced degrees, with experience as chemists, biologists, and genetics experts, and with decades of experience in the protection of new medical devices. Jackson Walker’s intellectual property attorneys offer biotechnology and life sciences companies expertise in:

- Biomedical Equipment and Instrumentation
- Biotechnology
- Diagnostics
- Immunology
- Medical Software
- Microbiology
- Molecular Biology
- Therapeutics
- Pharmaceuticals
- Medical and Dental Devices
- Agricultural Sciences
- Veterinary Sciences

Regulatory
Jackson Walker attorneys advise biotechnology and biomedical science companies on state and federal regulatory issues, such as FDA compliance relating to the approval and use of various forms of biotechnology including monographs, enforcement actions and inspections, compliance with and implementation of Current Good Manufacturing Practices (CGMP), and requirements related to their clinical trials (including IRBs and informed consent requirements). Additionally, we can guide a venture through the regulatory requirements related to adverse effects, warnings, advertising, and labeling of such products.

Litigation
Jackson Walker attorneys also are equipped to advocate on behalf of our biotechnology and medical technology clients in both litigation and pre-litigation resolution contexts. This experience encompasses IP litigation; joint venture, channel partner and other commercial disputes; and regulatory advocacy. We believe that most disputes can be resolved using various alternative dispute resolution techniques, thereby reducing costs and preserving our clients’ time, energy and resources for growing their emerging businesses. However, when the need arises, our attorneys’ extensive courtroom experience allows them to aggressively and honorably pursue our clients’ interests in all of the above aspects of biotechnology.

Recent Engagements
- Represented Pernix Therapeutics Holdings, Inc. in its $25 million acquisition of Somaxon Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
- Represented QSpeX Technologies, Inc., in a $6 million venture debt transaction with Silicon Valley Bank
- Represented Repros Therapeutics in $23.6 Million PIPE Financing
- Represented HealthTronics, Inc. (HTRN) in the $260 million sale of HealthTronics to Endo Pharmaceuticals Holdings Inc. (ENDP)
- Represented AirStrip Technologies in joint venture and channel relationship development with multinational health technology and equipment companies and hospital systems
- Represented HealthTronics, Inc. (HTRN) in the $20 million acquisition of Endocare Inc. (ENDP) by tender offer
- Represented a medical information technology company in a $40 million merger and sale to a private equity fund
- Represented institutional investors in over $1 billion aggregate commitments to private equity funds
- Represented a public healthcare and manufacturing company in its acquisitions of publicly traded competitors
- Represented a $300 million private equity fund in its formation and fundraising activities and currently represent this fund in its investment activities
- Represented private equity investors in the $100 million equity and debt financing of limited partnership with MD Anderson Cancer Center
- Represented educational institutions on incubation, intellectual property and other research and commercialization matters
- Represented numerous recipients of funding from the Texas Emerging Technology Fund

Awards & Recognition
Our life science and biotechnology team is globally recognized.

- Our focus on our clients has led to honors such as being listed on BTI’s honor rolls of “Best Performing Law Firms” and “Law Firms Best at Client Service.”
- Corporate Counsel magazine recently selected Jackson Walker as a “Go-To Law Firm for Technology Companies” in the areas of Intellectual Property and Litigation.
- Medicine E-Learning named team member’s blog as the #1 blog for general HIPAA information. The blog was spotlighted for having “Interesting news and information related to HIPAA and the health care industry in general.”