

Lila Hope

Partner



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Life Sciences Corporate Partnering and Licensing
Life Sciences

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Lila is a partner in Cooley's life sciences transactional group and co-chair of the firm's Women's Initiative. For 20+ years, she has focused on the representation of life sciences companies discovering, developing, and marketing pharmaceutical, vaccine, medical device, diagnostic and digital health products. Lila specializes in transactions involving complex intellectual property, business, operational and legal issues, including strategic partnerships and platform discovery and option deals. In addition, she counsels clients' management, operational and legal teams on day-to-day matters involving licensing, supply, distribution, clinical trials, research collaborations and vendor services. She also is routinely involved in the evaluation of a company's product rights and operational risks in connection with financing, public offering and M&A transactions. In addition to her long-established practice in the US, Lila maintains an active practice in cross-border licensing transactions, and she has concluded more than 30 transactions involving Asian biotechnology companies since 2015.

Lila graduated with a JD magna cum laude in 2002 from Duke University School of Law, where she was elected to Order of the Coif and awarded the Class of 1968 Scholarship. She earned her PhD in cancer biology from Stanford University School of Medicine in 1999, characterizing a novel tumor susceptibility gene as a Stanford Markey Predoctoral Fellow.

Lila is a member of the State Bar of California and the American Bar Association. She has been heavily involved with Duke Law and Stanford Medicine over the past decade, having served as the past president and a past board member of both the Duke Law Alumni Association and the Stanford Medicine Alumni Association. She currently serves as a member of the Duke Law Board of Visitors.

Lila has been recognized by Chambers USA in the category of Life Sciences: Corporate/Commercial – California in its 2020 – 2023 editions, and she has been ranked by The Legal 500 as a key lawyer in the Healthcare: Life Sciences category. She also is frequently sought out as a speaker and moderator at conferences and forums throughout the United States.

Lila's recent significant transactions include:

Strategic partnerships and collaborations since 2018

- Research collaboration between Biotheryx and Incyte (2023)
- Expansion of allogeneic cell therapy product license and platform collaboration between Fate Therapeutics and Ono Pharmaceutical (2022)
- Companion diagnostic product collaboration between Akoya Biosciences and Acrivon Therapeutics (2022)

- Collaboration and license between SiteOne Therapeutics and Vertex Pharmaceuticals (2022)
- Product acquisition between Vera Therapeutics and Pfizer (2022) and product license between Vera and Merck (2021)
- Option and license between COUR Pharmaceuticals and Ironwood Pharmaceuticals (2022)
- Drug discovery collaboration between Nimble Therapeutics and Genentech Therapeutics (2022) and between Nimble and Incyte (2022)
- Multiple myeloma drug collaboration between Eureka Therapeutics and Sanofi (2021)
- Allogeneic cell therapy product license and platform collaboration between Fate and Janssen (2020) and between Fate and Ono (2018)
- Viral immunotherapy platform collaboration between Turnstone Biologics and Takeda Pharmaceuticals (2019) and between Turnstone and AbbVie (2017)
- Kidney diseases discovery platform collaboration between Goldfinch Bio and Gilead Sciences (2019)
- Neurodegenerative disease platform collaboration between Takeda and Denali Therapeutics (2018)

Representative cross-border transactions

- License and collaboration between Zai Lab and:
 - MediLink Therapeutics (2023); Seagen (2022); argenx (2021); Karuna Therapeutics (2021); Blueprint Medicines (2021); Regeneron Pharmaceuticals (2020); Deciphera Pharmaceuticals (2019); MacroGenics (2018); Paratek Pharmaceuticals (2017); TESARO (2016); GSK (2016); Bristol-Myers Squibb (2015); Sanofi (2015); and UCB (2015)
- Collaboration between Rona Therapeutics and Keymed Biosciences (2023)
- Product acquisition between Zion Pharma and Roche (2023)
- Global partnership between Impact Therapeutics and Eikon Therapeutics (2023)
- Asset purchase between Seven and Eight Biopharmaceuticals and Eikon (2023)
- License between Zhimeng Biopharma and GSK (2022)
- Strategic partnership between Inmagene Biopharmaceuticals and Chi-Med (2021)
- Novel topical drug collaboration between Inmagene and TWi Biotechnology (2021)
- Monoclonal antibody exclusive license between I-Mab Biopharma and AbbVie (named 2020 Deal of the Year by BioCentury and BayHelix)
- Strategic collaboration between Jacobio Pharmaceuticals and AbbVie (2020)
- License and collaboration between ADC Therapeutics and ADCT BioPharma, a China joint venture (2020)
- License and collaboration between Everest Medicines and Calliditas Therapeutics (2019)
- Antiviral product license between Ark Biosciences and Roche (2018)
- License and collaboration between VISEN Pharmaceuticals (a China joint venture) and Ascendis Pharma (2018)
- License and collaboration between I-Mab and MorphoSys (2017)

Representative public offering and financing support since 2018

- Turnstone Biologics' IPO (2023)
- Opthea's financing by Abingworth and Carlyle (2022)

- Lulu's Fashion's IPO (2021)
- Portola Pharmaceuticals' acquisition by Alexion Pharmaceuticals (2020)
- Legend Biotech's IPO (2020)
- Gossamer Biotech's IPO and follow-on offering (2019 and 2020)
- SoftBank's investment in Relay (2018)
- SoftBank's investment in Roivant Sciences and follow-on financing (2017 and 2018)
- Guardant Health's IPO (2018)

Education

Duke University School of Law
JD, 2002

Stanford University
PhD, 1999

Oregon Graduate Institute
MS, 1993

Admissions & Credentials

California

Rankings & Accolades

Chambers USA: Life Sciences: Corporate/Commercial – Nationwide (2024)

Chambers USA: Life Sciences: Corporate/Commercial – California (2020 – 2024)

The Legal 500: Healthcare: Life Sciences

Duke Law Alumni Awards: Outstanding Volunteer Service Award (2022)

Stanford Associates: Stanford Volunteer Award (2019)

Memberships & Affiliations

American Bar Association (ABA)

Duke Law Board of Visitors, member (2022 – present)

Stanford Medicine Alumni Association, past president (2019 – 2021)

Duke Law Alumni Association, past president (2021 – 2022)

Stanford Medicine Alumni Association, past board member

Duke Law Alumni Association, past board member