EDITOR AND CONTRIBUTORS

Annabelle Bruyndonckx is Counsel at Simmons & Simmons in Brussels. With a legal career spanning over more than 20 years, Annabelle’s practice covers all parts of the medicinal products and medical devices’ life cycle from research and development and qualification to marketing authorisation/CE marking, pricing and reimbursement manufacture and distribution, advertising, tendering, compliance and liability issues. Annabelle is the head of the Belgian Regulatory Affairs Society’s (BRAS) Educational Group, where she organises training sessions for pharmaceutical and medical devices businesses.

Michael Bulckaert is a Supervising Associate at Simmons & Simmons in Brussels. He specialises in commercial law and litigation, with the emphasis on general commercial law, public procurement, product liability and intellectual property rights. Michael works mainly for companies active in the healthcare and life sciences sector. He has been seconded part-time in the legal department of multiple multinational pharmaceutical and medical devices companies.

Tom Chakraborti is a qualified medical doctor and an English solicitor, having qualified at Slaughter and May. He is an experienced commercial, data protection and life sciences lawyer, having worked for Novartis and Gilead Sciences. He has consulted since 2008 for a variety of healthcare and life sciences companies, including acting as a Group Data Protection Officer for Synlab and the global legal lead for the integration of the GSK-Novartis Consumer Healthcare Joint Venture.

Richard Y. Cheng is a healthcare regulatory and corporate member at Weaver Johnston Nelson, PLLC in Dallas, who focuses on representing investors and healthcare providers in regulatory matters, healthcare transactions and administrative law issues. He is certified in healthcare compliance through the Certification Compliance Board.

Emeka Chukwu is currently pursuing a PhD degree in Computer Information Systems at the University of Malta. His PhD research focuses on the intelligent exchange of health information in resource constrained environments using blockchain. Emeka’s digital health and research work spans several organisations, including Research Triangle International, World Bank, UNICEF, UNFPA, University of Washington, Pathfinder International, Health Strategy and Delivery Foundation and KPMG. Emeka also project managed the drafting of Nigeria’s national eHealth strategy 2015–2020 and led the drafting of Sierra Leone’s national digital health strategy 2018–2023.

Sharon Cohen is a Supervising Associate at Simmons & Simmons in Paris. She advises on a wide range of French and cross-border transactions, including private mergers and acquisitions and joint ventures, as well as complex corporate reorganisations. She has a particularly deep expertise in the healthcare and life sciences sector transactions.

Dr. C. Donald Combs is the Vice President and Dean of the School of Health Professions at the Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS). Dr. Combs holds faculty appointments as
tenured Professor of Health Professions at EVMS, Professor of General Medicine at the State Medical and Pharmaceutical University ‘Nicolae Testemitsanu,’ Visiting Professor of Medical Simulation at University of Paris – Descartes, and as Adjunct Professor of Modeling, Simulation and Visualization Engineering at Old Dominion University.

Nichola Cooper is a Senior Research Analyst for Fintech WorldWide, a PhD candidate in the futures of trust at the University of the Sunshine Coast in Australia, and a writer for University College London’s Centre for Blockchain Technologies. She has a background in law and psychology and her research interests include trust, frontier technologies, information security and data privacy.

Alison Dennis is a Partner and Co-Head of Life Sciences and Healthcare at Taylor Wessing in London. She helps medical device and pharmaceutical companies bring their products to market, providing expert advice on regulatory, compliance and intellectual property matters. Alison applies her knowledge of these fields to help structure a variety of intellectual property transactions, and also advises on sizeable corporate transactions and the myriad of other commercial arrangements which are unique in this sector.

Matthew DeNoncour is the owner of Magis Law Firm, P.C., a Boston-based law firm specialising in healthcare, technology and corporate law. Matthew began his career as a staff attorney with 21st Century Oncology, the largest integrated cancer care network in the United States. Matthew received his J.D. and M.B.A. from Creighton University, where he was inducted into the Beta Gamma Sigma honours society.

Simonetta Giordano is a Partner at Simmons & Simmons in Paris. She focuses on regulated industries, advising on transactional private mergers and acquisitions and joint ventures, as well as on complex corporate reorganisations and commercial contracts. Considering her international DNA (she is a French and Italian citizen, and speaks Italian, English, French and Spanish), she is mainly involved in cross-border transactions. Simonetta has an in-depth knowledge of the healthcare and life sciences sectors, and advises investors and industrials in structuring their investments in this industry.

Dr. Jelena Madir is the General Counsel of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance in Geneva. Prior to joining Gavi, she spent nearly 11 years at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in London, where she worked as a transactional lawyer, headed the Financial Law Unit – a dedicated unit focused on regulatory reforms in the areas of corporate governance, FinTech, insolvency and access to finance, and was also on secondments in EBRD’s compliance department and at the Bank of England. Previously, Jelena worked for several US law firms in Washington, DC, Frankfurt and Zagreb.

Trix Mulder is a PhD researcher at the Security, Technology and e-Privacy Research Group (STeP) and the University Medical Centre of the University of Groningen in the Netherlands. Her research focuses on the legal framework for the use and development of modern technologies in healthcare. As a Fulbright scholar at Maryland University, Trix investigated the US data protection legislation on a federal and state level, focusing on the protection of data concerning health.

Vladimir Murovec is a Supervising Associate at Simmons & Simmons in Brussels. He specialises in regulatory and compliance advice on behalf of medical technology and digital health businesses, pharmaceutical and consumer health companies, and significant players in other highly regulated industries. Vladimir advises on a wide range of issues from the research
and development phase and product qualification/classification, to (early) market access and vigilance/pharmacovigilance, covering all aspects relating to distribution and import-export, marketing and product information, and labelling of regulated products. Vladimir also assists healthcare and life sciences companies on the digital aspects of their businesses.

**Patrick Parkin** is a Partner at independent UK law firm, Burges Salmon LLP. Recognised in the UK legal directories as a leading practitioner in his field, he advises healthcare and technology clients in relation to commercial and regulatory matters, including in relation to public procurement law. Patrick specialises in providing practical advice to private sector clients on their tendering activities with NHS and other public sector bodies and associated contract and regulatory matters. He also advises public sector clients in relation to procurement law matters.

**Frédérique Potin** is Of Counsel at Simmons & Simmons in Paris. She advises on a wide range of trademark, intellectual property, trade secrets and data protection matters for both French and foreign clients in the healthcare and life sciences sectors. She has acquired expertise in dealing with the intellectual property and data protection aspects of complex licensing arrangements, as well as in acquisitions and corporate restructuring operations. She also represents clients in contentious matters regarding the infringement of trademark rights, copyright and design rights.

**Barrett Robin** is an Associate at DLA Piper LLP in Dallas. He handles business disputes and regulatory matters for companies and individuals operating in various industries, including the healthcare sector. His healthcare experience includes advising providers on Medicare reimbursement disputes, defending medical device companies in product liability actions and representing a physician-owned hospital in a partnership dispute.

**Stephen Tainsh** is a Partner and Head of the Medical Technology Group at Capsticks Solicitors LLP, London. Stephen has over 20 years’ experience of advising on a wide range of transactions in the healthcare sector. He is recognised as a leading individual in the healthcare sector by The Legal 500.

**Dr. Jane Thomason** is the CEO of Fintech Worldwide, a leading network for FinTech, blockchain and digital impact. Jane has extensive experience with the healthcare sector. She ran Women’s Health in Queensland, was the CEO of the Royal Children’s Hospital in Brisbane, led the Health Metrics Network at the World Health Organization, and was on the Board of the Burnett Institute, Wesley Hospital and UnitingCare Health. Since 2017, Jane has immersed herself in digital technology and social impact and is working with several international agencies on digital health transformation.

**Dr. Roland Wiring** is a Partner at CMS Germany in Hamburg, focusing on the life sciences and healthcare sector. He advises companies active in this field on a broad range of legal issues including regulatory, business development, transactions and litigation. Roland’s work in particular focuses on eHealth and the specific legal issues related to the digitisation of healthcare.