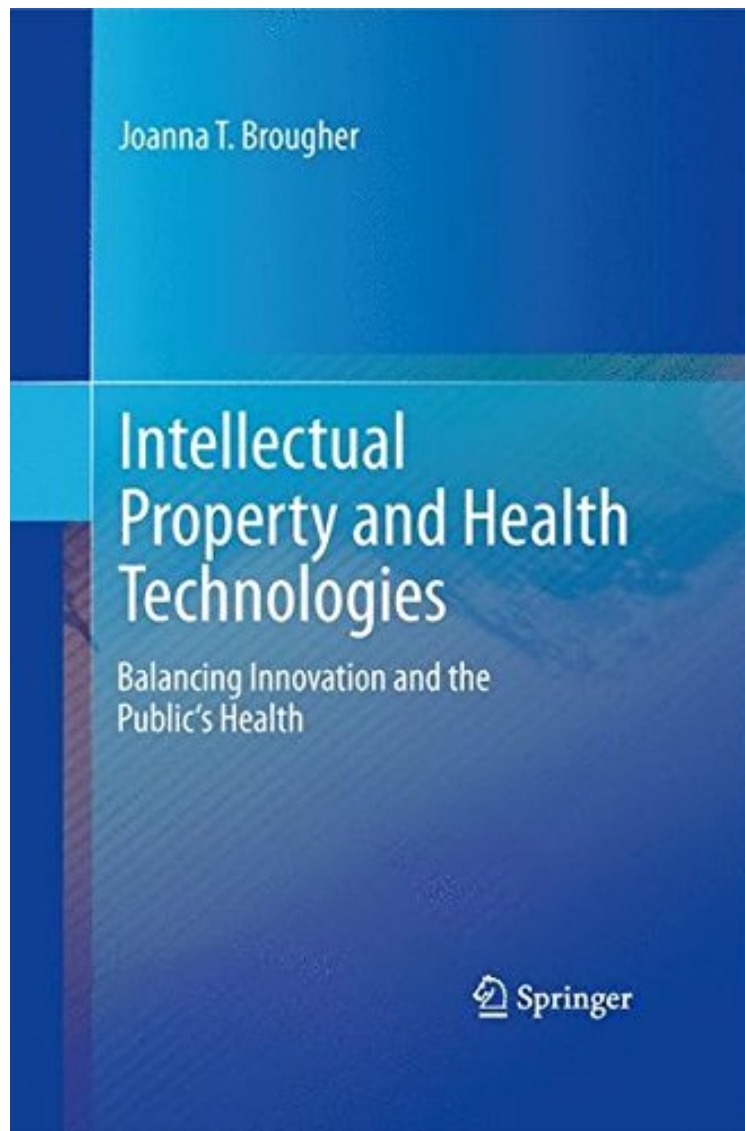


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Intellectual Property and Health Technologies: Balancing Innovation and the Public's Health

Joanna T. Brougher

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By Mark Paris
This book is an excellent introduction to patent law and the concepts that drive the biotech industry. This book is primarily directed to non-lawyers since Joanna does not go into the details behind filing or prosecuting patents. However, Joanna gives you exactly what you need to understand the fundamentals of patent law so that you can understand some of the hot topics and controversies surrounding patents in the biotech industry these days. As a non-lawyer, I thought the legal aspects of biotech patent law are explained well and are easy to understand. I was amazed at how many different sides there are to the various issues that surround development of medical technology. Many of those issues do not come up when you simply follow media coverage about such topics. Definitely a worthwhile read for anyone working with medical technologies.

Intellectual Property and Health Technologies
Balancing Innovation and the Public's Health
Joanna T. Brougher, Esq., MPH
At first glance, ownership of intellectual property seems straightforward: the control over an invention or idea. But with the recent explosion of new scientific discoveries poised to transform public health and healthcare systems, costly and lengthy patent disputes threaten both to undermine the attempts to develop new medical technologies and to keep potentially life-saving treatments from patients who need them.
Intellectual Property and Health Technologies grounds readers in patent law and explores how scientific research and enterprise are evolving in response. Geared specifically to the medical disciplines, it differentiates among forms of legal protection for inventors such as copyrights and patents, explains their limits, and argues for balance between competing forces of exclusivity and availability. Chapters delve into the major legal controversies concerning medical and biotechnologies in terms of pricing, markets, and especially the tension between innovation and access, including:
The patent-eligibility of genes
The patent-eligibility of medical process patents
The rights and roles of universities and inventors
The balancing of access, innovation, and profit in drug development
The tension between biologics, small-molecule drugs, and their generic counterparts
International patent law and access to medicine in the developing world
As these issues continue to shape and define the debate, Intellectual Property and Health Technologies enables professionals and graduate students in public health, health policy, healthcare administration, and medicine to understand patent law and how it affects the development of medical technology and the delivery of medicine.

From the book reviews:
"The intended audience includes students and professionals in medicine, research, business, health policy, and public health with an interest in medical technology. . . . The book identifies and provides a comprehensible overview of pertinent issues and areas of patent law related to medical technology, which are oftentimes absent from, or overly complicated in, other available resources in this field. As such, this is a valuable and useful book for interested individuals, particularly those with little to no background in patent law."
(Rachel Polzin, Doody's Book Reviews, November, 2014)
From the Back Cover
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