



Deal types in pharma/biotech

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Deal types

→ One-way deal:

- Acquisition
- Licensing
- Distribution
- Agency (not really a licensing deal)

→ Collaborative venture:

- Joint Venture
- Co-promotion/co-marketing

Acquisition

- All ownership/rights pass to the purchaser
 - Unlike Licensing, where IP remains in ownership of originator
- Payment is usually on signature
- May include an “earn-out”
 - Buyer pays some of the agreed total once certain milestones are reached

Agency/Distribution deals

- Agent manages distribution, invoicing & debt collection on behalf of the originator
 - May also include local marketing and sales activities
 - Bespoke or general sales force
 - Usually paid a mix of
 - Annual fees
 - Commission or sales-based income
 - Brand & Product ownership remains with the originator
 - Would not usually involve local manufacture
- Some licensing deals are called “Distribution Agreements”

Impact of deal type on Licensee

SUPPLY AGREEMENT	LICENSING DEAL	PURCHASE RIGHTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Licensors does work• Low capital costs• High unit costs• No control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shared work• Some capital costs• Lower unit costs• Some control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Licensee does work• High capital costs• Lowest unit costs• Full control

Agency/distribution

Licensing

Acquisition

Collaborative Ventures

- Pool product/device
- Share development
- Share marketing
 - co-marketing
 - co-promotion
 - geographical split
- Profits via JV company or royalty payments

Co-development

- Usually involves development projects
 - Combines complementary skills
 - Allows partner to fund development
- May lead to shared marketing
- Requires
 - Clear responsibilities
 - Agreed activity programme
 - Objective end-points
 - Mechanism to share costs/benefits

Joint Ventures

- Used with co-development deals
- Legal entity
- Both parties to assign IP to JV
- Management
 - Seconded employees
 - Activities sub-contracted to partners
- Termination can be complex
- Exploitation via
 - licenses to JV partners
 - On-licenses by JV to 3rd parties
 - Direct exploitation by the JV

Joint Ventures

→ Profit sharing from:

- Sub-contractor fees
- Raw material supplies
- Royalties on sales against IP
- Profit on products licensed back
- Dividends from JV
- Capital appreciation of JV investment

→ Can adjust each

- Match risk/returns
- Ensures a “fair” distribution of profits

Co-marketing vs Co-promotion

→ Co-marketing

- Same product, different brands
 - May be different formulations

→ Co-promotion

- One brand, 2 Sales forces
 - May have device & product brands
- Usually on national basis

→ Both options may not exist

- Regulatory constraints
- Licensing constraints

Co-marketing vs Co-promotion

→ Co-promotion

- Inflexible
- One party controls
- Image tied to both
- No competition
- Extensive coordination
- Builds only one brand

→ Co-marketing

- Flexible
- Low control
- Separate image
- Competitive
- Limited coordination
- Separate Trademarks



Thank you!

Interested to learn more?

 Visit [The Pharmaceutical Out-licensing Course](#)

 Or contact [Inge Cornelis](#), Director Client & Product Projects at CELforPharma