

OPEN PEER REVIEW

# Attitudes Towards Patent Law Among Biotech Startups

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
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## 1. Round 1

### 1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The article would benefit from a more detailed explanation of the theoretical framework underpinning the thematic analysis. Specify any existing models or theories in biotech innovation that guided the development of interview questions or the interpretation of data.

While the sample size is adequate for qualitative saturation, consider discussing the geographical diversity of your sample more explicitly. Biotech ecosystems can vary significantly across regions, and insights into regional differences could enrich the analysis.

Clarify how terms like "strategic value" and "operational delays" are defined within the context of your study. This will enhance the reader's understanding and ensure consistency in interpreting findings.

Expand on how NVivo was used to categorize and analyze data. Include examples of coding trees or specific examples of how key themes were derived from the raw data.

The discussion on how patent law impacts innovation could be deepened by incorporating comparative analysis with sectors other than biotechnology, which may provide a broader perspective on the regulatory impact.

Address the role of legal advice in navigating patent laws. Consider including a subsection on how startups manage their legal needs regarding patent applications and intellectual property management.

Propose specific areas for future research that could test the relationships between patent perceptions and innovation outputs using quantitative methods. This could help validate the qualitative insights provided in the study.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

### 1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

Mention the range of dates during which the interviews were conducted to provide readers with context regarding the temporal relevance of the data.

While you note ethical considerations, expand on any ethical dilemmas encountered during the study, especially related to confidentiality and the handling of sensitive information.

Increase the number of direct quotes from participants to enrich the narrative and provide concrete examples of attitudes toward patent law.

Broaden the literature review to include more recent studies on biotech startups and patent laws, ensuring the review captures developments up to the current year.

Enhance the discussion by linking your findings more explicitly to the theoretical implications for biotech innovation and strategic management.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

## 2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.