

Patents in the Biomedical Sciences and Industry – The Case of the Swiss Life Science Company Prionics

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Summary

The patent history in the field of biomedical-related inventions began in 1873 when microbiologist Louis Pasteur received a patent for his improved yeast-making invention. Since then, research, inventions and patent protection have become heavily developed along with ethical standards and the legal patent system. Here, we demonstrate practical implications for the use and the management of patents based on the neuroscience research and development company Prionics – the first of its kind to develop and patent an antibody-based test for the prion disease bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE).

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