5 KEY STEPS TO STAND OUT IN A CROWDED MARKET FOCUS

# The Biotech Brand Differentiation Playbook



# Your Science is Innovative. Is your brand?

Biotech is a competitive space, and strong branding helps you stand out. Here's how to make an impact.

O3
Clarify Your Data

Your science is complex, but your audience needs quick takeaways. Smart data visualization makes technical details digestible.

12

Refine Your Design

Typography, color, imagery, and UI all shape perception. A cohesive design system keeps your brand polished and professional.

20

Simplify Web Nav

Guide visitors with clear pathways, audience segmentation, and trust signals above the fold to boost engagement.

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Stay Consistent Everywhere

From decks to web to reports, brand alignment builds credibility. Use tools like Figma or Canva to keep assets organized. 33

Take Bold Creative Risks

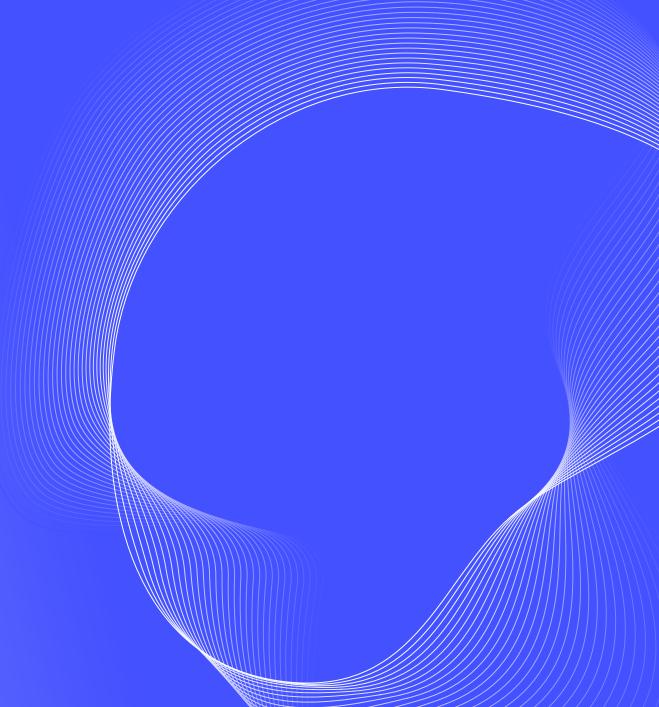
Biotech leads in innovation, but branding often plays it safe. Stand out with compelling storytelling and distinct visuals.

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Your work is groundbreaking—your brand should be, too.

STEP 01

# Make Your Data Work for You



# The Power of Visual Storytelling in Biotech

Biotech brands thrive on innovation, but let's be honest—your audience doesn't have time to decode dense charts, endless spreadsheets, or jargon - packed reports. Whether it's investors scanning your pitch deck, partners scrolling your website, or scientists evaluating your latest breakthrough, people give you seconds—seven to ten, to be exact—to make an impact.

Data visualization is one of the most overlooked tools in biotech branding. When done right, it helps your audience understand complex science quickly, builds credibility, and highlights what really matters. But too often, companies miss the mark, leaving their audience with confusing graphs, too much detail, or visuals that don't match their brand.

That means your data needs to work for you, not against you.

1 START WITH THE POINT.

Before designing an infographic or a chart, ask yourself:

- What is the single most important takeaway?
- ▶ If someone remembers only one thing, what should it be?

Build your visual around that, rather than cramming every piece of data onto a slide.

2 USE SIMPLICITY AS A STRATEGY.

Clutter is the enemy of clarity. Stick to one main data point per graphic. If you need to provide more detail, let the audience click deeper on your website or expand within your deck.

3 CHOOSE THE RIGHT FORMAT.

Not all data should be a bar graph **I**. Think about the story behind the numbers:

- Trends over time? Use a line graph.
- Showing parts of a whole? A clean, minimal pie chart or percentage breakdown works best.

- Process or workflow? Consider a step-by-step infographic or a circular flow diagram.
- Comparing two things? Side-by-side bars.

4 STAY ON-BRAND.

Your data should look like it belongs to your company. That means fonts, colors, and styles should match your overall visual identity.

A polished, professional design builds trust—an inconsistent or cluttered one does the opposite.

5 TEST READABILITY.

Before finalizing any visual, show it to someone outside your field. If they can't grasp the main takeaway in ten seconds, it's too complicated.



#### Where Biotech Brands Go Wrong

Many biotech companies assume that if their data is technically correct, that's all that matters.

But good science doesn't sell itself—you need the right presentation of that science. If an investor can't immediately understand the value of your findings, they'll move on.

If a partner or customer can't connect with what you're offering, they won't stick around to figure it out.

#### Summary

#### YOUR NEXT MOVE: AUDIT YOUR EXISTING VISUALS

Pull up your last pitch deck, landing page, or research report.

Now, with fresh eyes, ask yourself:

- Can someone understand the takeaway in ten seconds?
- Does the visual guide the viewer toward a clear conclusion?
- Is it easy to read, branded, and engaging?

If the answer to any of these is "no," it's time to rethink your approach to data visualization.

**STEP 02** 

## Elevating Your Biotech Brand with Better Design

# Why typography, color, UI, and imagery matter more than ever

You already know that biotech brands have lagged behind when it comes to modern design. The industry is full of cutting-edge science—but too often, the visual branding doesn't match the level of innovation happening behind the scenes. And if you're here, you probably agree: It's time for that to change.

But updating your design isn't just about swapping out a logo or choosing trendier colors. It's about crafting a cohesive visual system that helps your brand stand out, feel current, and build trust with investors, partners, and customers. And just as important? Getting internal buy-in from leadership and stakeholders so that your team is aligned on what the brand should look like and why it matters.

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## Where to Start: The Essential Design Elements

A strong biotech brand isn't just one thing—it's a system of carefully chosen design elements that work together to create a recognizable, compelling identity.

The following five slides will provide areas you can focus on.



### Typography: Clarity Over Complexity

The right font choices make your brand instantly feel more modern, polished, and trustworthy. Many biotech brands rely on default sans-serif fonts or uninspired choices that don't add personality or structure. Instead:

- ► Use a primary typeface that balances professionalism with warmth. (Think clean, legible, and contemporary—not sterile or robotic. ( )
- Pair it with a supporting font for contrast. A serif for headlines, a monospace font for data—strategic variety makes information easier to scan.

### Color Palette: Modern, Memorable, Meaningful

A strong color system does more than just look nice—it shapes perception. In biotech, too many brands lean on predictable blue-heavy palettes that blend together. Instead:

- Choose a primary color with intention. Does it communicate innovation, trust, or energy?
- Develop a secondary palette for flexibility. Accent colors can help differentiate product lines or service offerings.
- ▶ Be strategic about neutrals. A clean, well-balanced neutral base keeps the palette sophisticated and prevents visual clutter.

Use color to help you stand out from the biotech pack.

### UI & Web Design: Simplicity Wins

Your website is often the first impression your brand makes—so it needs to work for you, not against you. That means:

- Clear, intuitive navigation—No one should struggle to find the information they need.
- ► Ample white space—Give your content breathing room instead of cramming too much onto the screen.
- ► Thoughtful CTAs—Guide users toward the right action with strong calls to action that stand out.

Schedule a call

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#### MAKING THE CASE FOR BETTER DESIGN

One of the biggest hurdles to a design overhaul? Getting leadership on board. But positioning design as a business investment rather than just an aesthetic upgrade can shift the conversation. A well-designed brand:

- Builds trust with investors and partners
- Helps you stand out in a crowded market
- Improves communication by making complex information easier to understand
- Creates consistency across presentations, digital platforms, and marketing materials

Updating your biotech brand's design isn't about following trends—it's about creating a cohesive, modern, and functional identity that supports your business goals. When design works, it doesn't just look better—it performs better.

**STEP 03** 

## Web Design: Guide Your Users, Don't Make Them Guess

# How smart user flow and clear messaging create a frictionless web experience

Your biotech website isn't just a digital business card—it's a roadmap. The people landing on your site have an objective, whether it's an investor looking for credibility, a scientist validating your research, or a potential partner exploring collaboration. Your job is to guide them to the right destination quickly and seamlessly.

#### The Problem?

Most biotech sites don't do this well. They overwhelm users with technical jargon, force them to dig for key information, or—worst of all—fail to acknowledge different audience needs.



If you want people to stay, engage, and convert, your website needs to:

- Speak directly to them (not just about you)
- Show them instantly they're in the right place
- Provide a clear, intuitive path forward

#### The 7-Second Rule: Hook Them or Lose Them

Users take 7-10 seconds to decide to stay or not.

Let's start with reality: Your users will give you about 7-10 seconds at the top of your homepage before deciding whether to stay. That's it. In those few seconds, they need to see enough validation to trust that they're in the right place. Otherwise, they leave.

Above the fold (the part of your homepage visible before scrolling), your website should include:

- A clear, audience-centered headline (Not "We Do X," but rather, "Helping Biotech Teams Solve
- Short, compelling subtext that reinforces what you do and why it matters
- Social proof or credibility indicators (logos of partners, funding status, press features)

- A visual cue of what you do (real imagery, scientific visuals, or product UI)
- A primary call to action (CTA) that immediately lets them take the next step

If your homepage isn't answering who you are, what you do, and why it matters within seconds, it's not doing its job.

### Segment Your Audiences & Design for Their Journey

Not everyone coming to your site is looking for the same thing. Investors, researchers, and potential customers all need different information—so your site should reflect that.

#### Here's how to do it:

- 1 Identify your key audience segments (Investors, Researchers, Partners, etc.)
- Understand their intent (Why are they visiting? What questions do they have?)
- Give them clear entry points (Dedicated pages or CTAs that speak directly to their needs)
- 4 Lead them through a logical flow (Each page should answer their next question, not create more)

The goal is simple: make it easy for every visitor to find what they need without frustration.

## User-Centric Copy: Speak Their Language, Not Yours

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Your website copy should be user-focused at every level.

#### Instead of:

- "We develop cutting-edge molecular synthesis tools."
- "Our team has decades of experience in protein engineering."

#### Try:

- "Easily synthesize complex molecules with precision."
- "Accelerate your protein development with expert support at every stage."

See the difference? User-focused copy makes your brand feel more relevant, accessible, and engaging. 🛠

#### A Good Website is a Good Story

At the end of the day, your website isn't just about organizing content—it's about telling a story that aligns with your audience's journey. Every element, from homepage structure to user flow, should make sense in the order someone would naturally want to receive information.

When we work with biotech companies, we study the audience first. We research competitors, analyze user behavior, and map out the right story before we start designing. Once we know what needs to be said and in what order, only then do we start structuring copy, wireframing pages, and bringing the vision to life. \*\*

Because when your website feels seamless—when your users intuitively understand where to go, what to do, and why it matters—you don't just get more engagement.

You build trust.

**STEP 04** 

## Keeping Your Brand Consistent Across Every Touchpoint

Rebranding is exciting, but maintaining brand consistency? That's the real challenge ①. It's a mix of systems work (setting up the right tools and guidelines) and people work (making sure your team actually follows them).

The goal is simple: no matter where someone encounters your brand—on your website, in a pitch deck, or through a data report—it should feel cohesive, polished, and unmistakably you.

## Brand Consistency Starts with Education

A brand guideline PDF is great, but it's not enough. If you want people to follow it, you have to teach them how and why it matters. A few ways to get buy-in:

- ✓ HOST LIVE BRAND TRAININGGather teams for an overview of logo usage, typography, and tone
- ☑ CREATE LOOM VIDEO WALKTHROUGHS
  Short, on-demand training videos make it easy for anyone to reference key brand rules when they need them.
- PROVIDE EASY ACCESS TO BRAND ASSETS

  If people can't find the right logos or templates, they'll just guess. Use a shared folder, a Figma library, or Canva's brand kit to keep things in one place.

### What Needs to Stay Consistent?

When we talk about brand consistency, we're talking about more than just logos. Every detail adds up to how people perceive your company.

#### COLOR USAGE

Stick to your brand palette across all designs.

No "close enough" shades allowed.

#### A TYPOGRAPHY

Keep font choices and styles uniform across decks, reports, and web pages.

#### TONE OF VOICE

The way you write should be just as consistent as the way you design.

#### DATA VISUALIZATIONS

Graphs, charts, and infographics should follow the same design language

#### CROSS-PLATFORM EXPERIENCE

Website, decks, social media, and print materials should all feel connected, not like they were made by different teams.

# Managing Your Design Assets: Figma vs. Canva

Once you've got a strong brand system in place, the next step is choosing the right tool for managing it.

FIGMA

(Best for design-heavy teams)

- Live multi-user editing Everyone works in the same file at the same time.
- Commenting & feedback Built-in tools make collaboration seamless.
- Design systems & libraries One source of truth for all brand assets.
- Role-based permissions Control who can edit and who can only view.
- Learning curve Non-designers might find it difficult.
- Cost Requires paid seats for full collaboration.

CANVA

(Best for content-heavy teams)

- Easy for non-designers Anyone can edit
- Simple sharing Just send a link, no software needed.
- Pre-made templates Great for quick, branded marketing assets.
- Free viewer roles Not everyone needs a paid seat.
- No real-time collaboration Only one person can edit at a time.
- Limited design control No granular permissions, which means brand consistency can slip.

### How to Keep Brand Consistency in check

No matter which tool you use, setting up structured templates will save your team so much time and frustration. Here's how to make sure your brand stays polished:

- USE LOCKED TEMPLATES
  Prevent off-brand edits by creating master files.
- AUDIT REGULARLY Every quarter, take a step back and make sure nothing is slipping.

REVIEW BEFORE PUBLISHING

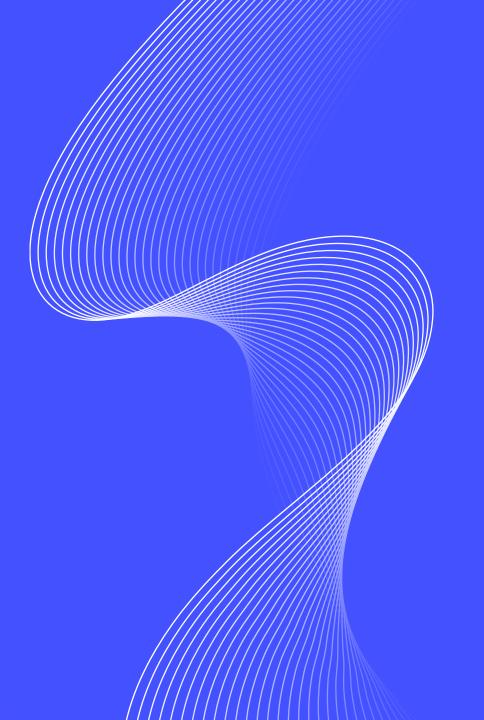
Assign a brand guardian (or a team) to double-

Assign a brand guardian (or a team) to double check major external-facing materials.

Brand consistency doesn't happen by accident. It takes clear guidelines, the right tools, and a little bit of brand evangelism inside your team. Do the work upfront, and your brand will stay strong—no matter who's designing.

**STEP 05** 

# Go Bolder, Be More Creative, Take the Risk



### Biotech is all About Pushing Boundaries

Your scientists, researchers, and product teams are doing groundbreaking work every day—but is your brand keeping up? Too often, biotech companies play it safe when it comes to design, relying on the same sterile blue color palettes, stock lab photography, and predictable corporate messaging. The problem? You blend in.

If your work is truly innovative, your brand should be too. Taking creative risks doesn't mean being reckless—it means being intentional. It means crafting a visual and messaging strategy that stands out rather than getting lost in a sea of sameness.

The best brands don't just exist in their space they own it.

### Biotech is all About Pushing Boundaries

Before launching a brand or website, do a deep dive into how your competitors present themselves. Are they all using the same fonts, colors, or imagery? Do they have similar messaging? Instead of following the formula, find ways to break it.

If every company in your space is muted and clinical, maybe yours is dynamic and expressive. If everyone is relying on tired tech jargon, maybe you take a more human approach.

#### How to Push Your Brand Further

1 EMBRACE CREATIVE STORYTELLING

Science is complex, but the best brands make it digestible and memorable.

Use dynamic visuals, compelling narratives, and unexpected elements to make your brand feel as innovative as your work. Instead of generic industry imagery, invest in custom illustrations or interactive experiences that immerse your audience in your world.

#### How to Push Your Brand Further

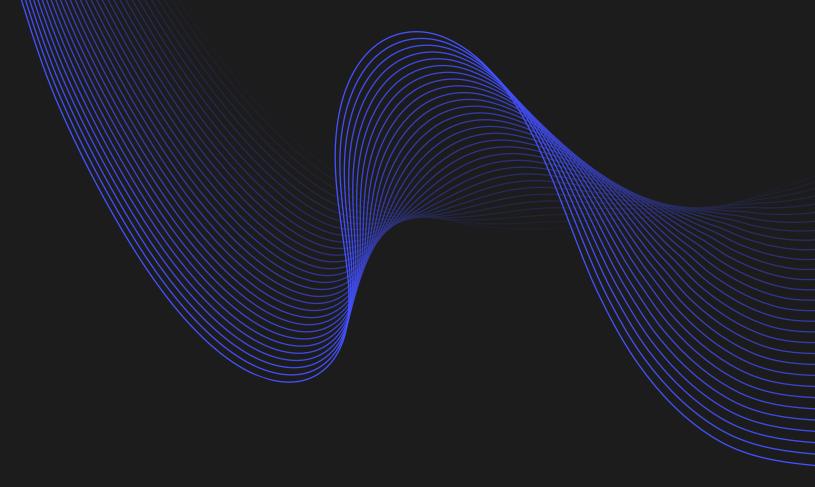
2 BE BOLD IN YOUR DESIGN CHOICES

If your company is solving problems in a groundbreaking way, let your design reflect that. Consider modern typography, unexpected color palettes, striking animations, or dynamic data visualizations that reinforce your company's vision. Subtle shifts in branding—like a more confident tone of voice, bold imagery, or interactive web design—can change how people perceive your company.

#### How to Push Your Brand Further

3 TAKE RISKS, BUT KEEP IT SMART ♀

Being bold doesn't mean throwing every flashy trend onto your site or marketing materials. It means making strategic choices that serve your audience while setting you apart. The right design partner can help you strike this balance—crafting a brand that's both innovative and timeless.



At the end of the day, biotech is about moving the world forward →. Your brand should do the same. Don't settle for blending in—dare to be unforgettable.

# Why Brand Differentiation Matters

In a crowded and competitive biotech market, strong branding isn't just a nice-to-have—it's a strategic advantage.

Your work is innovative  $\bigotimes$  and meaningful. Your brand should reflect that innovation with clarity, creativity, and consistency.

#### The 5 Key Plays

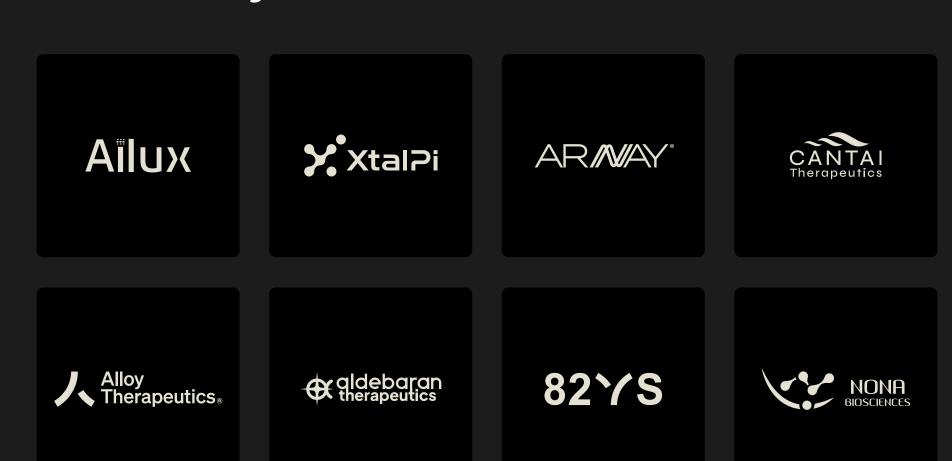
- MAKE YOUR DATA DIGESTIBLE WITH SMART, ON-BRAND VISUALS.
- BUILD A COHESIVE DESIGN SYSTEM THAT ELEVATES EVERY TOUCHPOINT.
- GUIDE USERS THROUGH YOUR WEBSITE WITH PURPOSE AND CLARITY.
- MAINTAIN BRAND CONSISTENCY ACROSS TEAMS AND PLATFORMS.
- TAKE BOLD, STRATEGIC RISKS TO MAKE YOUR BRAND STAND OUT.

#### What's Next?

Your next move is about alignment: aligning your visual identity with your business goals, your design system with your internal team, and your digital experience with the expectations of your audience.

Need a partner to help make it happen? Let's build something bold together.

#### Trusted by Biotech brands like:



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