



Biotech Daily

Wednesday August 7, 2013

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: ATCOR UP 8%, ANTISENSE DOWN 8%**
- * **SIRTEX FOUNDER DR BRUCE GRAY SELLS \$87m MORE SHARES**
- * **PATRY'S LAST GROUP DOSED IN PAT-SM6 MULTIPLE MYELOMA TRIAL**
- * **SOUTH KOREA APPROVES ATCOR SPHYGMOCOR XCEL**
- * **EUROPEAN PATENT FOR VIRALYTICS PICORNAVIRUSES FOR CANCER**
- * **JAPAN GRANTS IMUGENE LINGUET BUCCAL DELIVERY PATENT**
- * **BIONICHE REQUESTS UP TO \$8m CAPITAL RAISING TRADING HALT**
- * **NOVOGEN APPOINTS PROF PAUL DE SOUZA MEDICAL BOARD CHAIRMAN**
- * **ACUVAX EX-CEO DR WILLIAM ARDREY FRAUD TRIAL SET**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 1.85 percent on Wednesday August 7, 2013 with the S&P ASX 200 down 94.3 points to 5,011.3 points.

Eleven of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 19 fell, four traded unchanged and six were untraded. All three Big Caps were up.

Atcor was the best, up one cent or 7.7 percent to 14 cents with 1.8 million shares traded.

Alchemia climbed 6.35 percent; Viralytics was up 4.9 percent; Clinuvel and Prana were up more than three percent; Circadian, Neuren, Optiscan and Patrys rose more than two percent; Bionomics was up 1.75 percent; with Nanosonics up 0.7 percent.

Antisense led the falls, down 0.1 cents or 7.7 percent to 1.2 cents with 3.6 million shares traded.

Benitec lost 6.45 percent; Genetic Technologies, GI Dynamics and Pharmaxis fell five percent or more; Phosphagenics and Phylogica fell more than four percent; Avita and Starpharma were down more than three percent; Acrux, CSL, Prima and Psivida shed two percent or more; Allied Health, Anteo and Tissue Therapies were down more than one percent; with Cochlear, Heartware, Mesoblast, QRX, Resmed and Sirtex down by less than one percent.

SIRTEX MEDICAL

Sirtex founder and former chief executive officer Dr Bruce Gray has sold most of his holding in the company.

In a ceasing substantial shareholder notice Dr Gray confirmed that a crossing organized by Macquarie Bank saw 7,271,714 shares sold for \$12.00 a share at 5.58pm last night, returning \$87,261,768 to his company ACN 132442 114 Pty Ltd.

In July, Dr Gray reduced his holding to 8,328,410 shares, implying that he currently holds 1,056,696 shares or 1.88 percent (BD: Jul 1, 2013).

From 2006, Dr Gray used his holding to call extraordinary general meetings, call for spills of the board and oppose company resolutions and held 17,332,283 shares in 2008.

Dr Gray, Sirtex and the University of Western Australia were involved in a long running court case over the beneficial ownership of inventions, with one case concluding in favor of Sirtex with findings against the University and Dr Gray (BD: Jun 11, 2010) and another in favor of Dr Gray rejecting claims by the University (BD: Feb 15, 2010).

Sirtex fell 10 cents or 0.8 percent to \$12.45 with 1.4 million shares traded.

PATRY'S

Patry's says it has approval to dose its fourth and final group of three patients in its phase I/IIa PAT-SM6 multiple myeloma dose escalation.

Patry's said that there were no significant adverse events reported from the third patient group, treated with four doses of PAT-SM6 at 3.0mg/kg.

The company said that the independent board monitoring the trial at Germany's University Hospital of Würzburg gave approval for the fourth and final patient group.

Patry's said the fourth group would initially receive four doses of PAT-SM6 at 6.0mg/kg, which was in line with dosing levels of antibodies on the market.

Last December, the first cohort began treatment on 0.3mg/kg and the second cohort completed treatment on 1.0mg/kg in April (BD: Dec 10, 2012; Apr 10, 2013)

Patry's was up 0.1 cents or 2.8 percent to 3.7 cents with 2.1 million shares traded.

ATCOR MEDICAL

Atcor says that the Republic of Korea Food and Drug Administration has approved its Sphygmocor Xcel non-invasive central blood pressure measurement system.

Atcor said that South Korean distributor DK Medical Solutions Co would begin to market and sell the system to clinicians and researchers.

The company said that South Korea was a key target Asian market, with "one of the world's most advanced healthcare systems and a population of over 50 million people ... [and] a rapidly ageing society with 11 percent of the population over 65 years of age.

Atcor said that the risk of hypertension, or high blood pressure, increased with age and that 30 percent of men and 17 percent of women in Korea had hypertension.

Atcor chief executive officer Duncan Ross said the company was "delighted to receive regulatory approval to sell Sphygmocor Xcel in Korea, and also Thailand where Sphygmocor Xcel was approved for sale in July".

DK Medical said that it had been "the exclusive distributor for Atcor Medical since 2009 when we successfully introduced Sphygmocor in the Korean market".

"Sphygmocor has offered specialists the gold standard in pulse wave analysis and pulse wave velocity measurement," DK Medical said.

Atcor said that the Sphygmocor Xcel had been cleared for sale in 36 countries.

Atcor was up one cent or 7.7 percent to 14 cents with 1.8 million shares traded.

VIRALYTICS

Viralytics says the European Patent Office has allowed a patent covering picornaviruses to kill cancer cells.

Viralytics chief science officer and the inventor of the technology Prof Darren Shafren told Biotech Daily that the patent was entitled 'A method of treating a malignancy in a subject and a pharmaceutical composition for use in same'.

Viralytics said that the patent broadened the scope of the core patent covering coxsackie A viruses to include the much wider family of all picornaviruses that bound to intercellular adhesion molecule-1 (ICAM-1) in the process of killing cancer cells.

Viralytics chief executive officer Dr Malcolm McColl said the patent would "significantly strengthen Viralytics' intellectual property portfolio in Europe to cover the broad use of all picornaviruses, including Cavatak, that destroy cancerous cells following binding to cell surface expressed ICAM-1".

"The European Union is the world's second largest pharmaceutical market and broadening our patent portfolio in this market is a very valuable additional asset for the company," Dr McColl said.

Viralytics was up 1.5 cents or 4.9 percent to 32 cents.

IMUGENE

Imugene says Japan has granted a patent application for its Linguet drug delivery technology entitled 'Buccal delivery system' allowed in March (BD: Mar 5, 2013).

Imugene said that the patent provided protection around Linguet's formulations and other specific excipients for a class of drugs that prevented the loss of bone mass, known as bisphosphonic acids and bisphosphonates, used to treat conditions such as osteoporosis and multiple myeloma.

The company said that it was projected that more than about 50 percent of all osteoporotic hip fractures would occur in Asia by the year 2050, with the prevalence of osteoporosis in the Japanese female population aged 50 to 79 years had been estimated at about 35 percent at the spine and 9.5 percent at the hip

Imugene said that Linguet was protected in two markets, with the same patent formulation granted in China in May 2013.

Imugene executive director Dr Nick Ede said the expansion of the patent portfolio was "a significant step in our commercialization strategy".

"Not only does it demonstrate the strength of our novel Linguet technology, but it enables us to explore two lucrative Asian markets for licencing opportunities in the billion dollar bisphosphonate market for osteoporosis," Dr Ede said

Imugene was untraded at 0.5 cents.

BIONICHE LIFE SCIENCES

Bioniche has requested a trading halt "pending an announcement in relation to a capital raising".

Trading will resume on August 9, 2013 or on an earlier announcement.

In a separate announcement, Bioniche said it hoped to raise \$C5million (\$A5.37 million) to \$C7.5 million (\$A8.06 million).

The company said that the net proceeds would support the development of the phase III bladder cancer product Urocidin and for general corporate purposes.

Bioniche last traded at 34.5 cents.

NOVOGEN

Novogen says it has appointed Prof Paul de Souza as chairman of its medical advisory board to advise on the design and conduct of its clinical trials.

Novogen said that Prof De Souza was the foundation professor of medical oncology at the University of Western Sydney, director of the Translational Cancer Research Unit of the Ingham Institute of Medical Research, conjoint professor at the University of New South Wales' Faculty of Medicine and director of Liverpool Hospital's Department of Medical Oncology.

The company said that other members of the board would comprise experts from Australia, the US and Europe.

Novogen was unchanged at 16.5 cents.

ACUVAX

Former Acuvax chief executive officer Dr William Ardrey will go to trial, charged with 19 counts of fraud, at the Perth District Court on November 18, 2013.

An officer of the Perth District Court told Biotech Daily that a further procedural hearing date had been set for August 30, with the trial dates listed from November 18 through to December 13, 2013 (BD: Feb 28, Apr 20, Jul 20, Nov 30, 2012; Feb 25, 2013).

Last year, Western Australia Police told Biotech Daily that Dr Ardrey had been granted bail with undisclosed conditions.

Western Australia Police said the complainant in the matter was Phoenix Eagle a company described as a small biotechnology company involved in therapeutic cosmetics. Acuvax was untraded at 0.1 cents.