



Biotech Daily

Tuesday January 21, 2025

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX, BIOTECH UP: ALCIDION UP 6.5%; PERCHERON DOWN 11%**
- * **RESPIRI PAYS \$14.4m SCRIP FOR ORB HEALTH; RAISES \$1.1m**
- * **RECCE DOSES PHASE II R327 SKIN INFECTION TRIAL**
- * **JM FINANCIAL, NO PLAN B TAKE 16.5% OF IMEX**
- * **RESPIRI EXEC CHAIR NICHOLAS SMEDLEY TO NON-EXEC; PAY CUT**
- * **DR FABIO TURATTI REPLACES PHENOMICS DIRECTOR DR SUSAN POND**
- * **AUSBIOTECH MARCH WOMEN IN LIFE SCIENCES SUMMIT**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.66 percent on Tuesday January 21, 2025, with the ASX200 up 55.0 points to 8,402.4 points.

Twenty-two of the Biotech Daily Top 40 companies were up, 11 fell and seven traded unchanged. The four Big Caps were mixed.

Alcidion was the best, up 0.4 cents or 6.45 percent to 6.6 cents, with 1.4 million shares traded.

Neuren climbed 5.4 percent; Actinogen, Cynata, Opthea and Prescient improved four percent or more; Mesoblast was up 3.2 percent; Amplia, Clarity, Clinuvel, Medical Developments, Polynovo and Universal Biosensors rose two percent or more; Cochlear, Impedimed, Nanosonics, Orthocell, Pro Medicus and Telix were up one percent or more; with 4D Medical, EBR, Emvision, Proteomics and SDI up by less than one percent.

Percheron led the falls, down 0.1 cents or 11.1 percent to 0.8 cents, with 6.5 million shares traded.

Compumedics and Curvebeam lost more than three percent; Dimerix, Genetic Signatures, Imugene, Medadvisor and Micro-X shed two percent or more; Paradigm was down 1.1 percent; with Avita, CSL, Cyclopharm and Resmed down by less than one percent.

[RESPIRI](#)

Respiri says it has purchased Orb Health Inc for \$US9,000,000 (\$A14,409,000) in scrip and has raised \$US700,000 (\$A1,100,000) in a placement to Orb Health.

Last year, Respiri said it would pay \$US9 million in scrip for the Dallas, Texas-based Orb Health and its chronic care management and patient services (BD: Nov 26, 2024).

At that time, the company said Orb Health offered remote contact centres with administrative and clinical agents, patient information management services, health management services and its Enterprise Virtual Care for chronic care management

Today, Respiri said it would issue an initial \$US400,000 in shares to Orb Health “contemporaneously” with a further \$US300,000 in shares expected to be issued “within the next 45 days”.

The company said an additional payment “may be payable upon Orb Health meeting financial targets at the completion of 2025 also to be satisfied through the issue of fully paid ordinary shares”.

Respiri was up 0.1 cents or 1.4 percent to 7.4 cents.

[RECCE PHARMACEUTICALS](#)

Recce says it has dosed all 30 patients in its phase II clinical trial of R327 topical gel for acute bacterial skin and skin structure infections.

Last year, Recce said it had dosed 20 of the 30 patients in its phase II study of R327 topical gel for skin and skin structure infections (BD: Nov 5, 2024).

Today, the company said the trial showed patients “experienced either a complete cure or significant improvement in infection symptoms following treatment with R327”.

Recce said interim data showed there were no serious adverse events and that the clinical data would be reviewed by the data safety monitoring board, with full results expected by April 2025.

Recce managing-director James Graham said that R327 had “made significant progress over the last year, confirming its safety profile and demonstrating impressive efficacy as a topical gel formulation, especially considering the high degree of bacterial resistance present in many of the patients being treated in this phase II trial”.

“We look forward to the full dataset, which we expect will further support R327's progress toward regulatory evaluation,” Mr Graham said.

Recce chief medical advisor Dr Alan Dunton said the company was “thrilled to see such robust clinical results from our phase II trial”.

“These results demonstrate the potential of R327 [gel] to address the [acute bacterial skin and skin structure infections] market,” Dr Dunton said.

“This milestone marks significant progress in our clinical development journey,” Dr Dunton said.

Recce was up one cent or 2.1 percent to 48 cents.

[IMEX HEALTH SYSTEMS](#)

Melbourne’s JM Financial Group Ltd and No Plan B Pty Ltd say they have increased their holding in Imex from 6,903,346 shares (15.13%) to 7,588,094 shares (16.54%).

JM Financial and No Plan B said that between October 11, 2024 and January 9, 2025 they bought shares on-market, with the single largest purchase 289,897 shares on December 31 for \$107,379, or 37.0 cents a share.

Imex fell one cent or 2.9 percent to 34 cents.

RESPIRI

Respiri says executive chair Nicholas Smedley will become a non-executive chair, with his pay to be reduced from \$240,000 a year to \$75,000 a year.

Respiri said Mr Smedley's transition to non-executive was part of a restructuring initiative following its acquisition of Orb Health Inc (see above).

The company said Mr Smedley would "continue to be a key strategic contributor to the organization's continue push into the US market in helping to communicate the company's achievements and ambitions to all major stakeholders".

PHENOMICS AUSTRALIA (FORMERLY AUSTRALIAN PHENOMICS NETWORK)

The Canberra-based Phenomics Australia says it has appointed Dr Fabio Turatti as a director, replacing Dr Susan Pond.

Phenomics Australia said Dr Turatti was founding partner and managing director of the Synthesis Bioventures investment fund and was an advisor, founder or board member for companies including Catalyst Therapeutics, Anaxis Pharma, Qubist Molecular Design, Aculeus Therapeutics, Qubigen and Melbridge Therapeutics.

The Federal Government-funded organization said Dr Turatti's "insights and expertise will play a key role in advancing our vision of improving health outcomes through the discovery of gene function".

Phenomics Australia thanked Dr Pond for her "the invaluable contributions [she] ... made during her time on our board".

AUSBIOTECH

Ausbiotech says it expects 600 attendees at its women in life sciences leadership summit, to be held in Sydney on March 7, 2025.

Ausbiotech said the event was in addition to its annual women in life sciences luncheon and was "designed to empower women leaders and those ready to take the next step in their leadership journey".

The organization said the event would include keynotes and panel discussions as well as networking, mentoring and professional development opportunities.

Ausbiotech said there was a "significant leadership gap" in Australia's life sciences sector, with women holding "25 percent of board positions and 18 percent of chief executive officer roles".

The organization said the summit would be held at Doltone House, Darling Island Wharf, 48 Pirrama Road, Sydney on March 7, 2025 from 8am to 11.50am (AEST) followed by its luncheon.

Ausbiotech said tickets for the summit were \$215 for members and \$265 for non-members, with luncheon tickets costing \$230 and \$280 for members and non-members, respectively, and that registration closed on February 7, 2025.

To register go to: <https://bit.ly/3E1AMhs>.