



Biotech Daily

Monday February 28, 2011

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: SUNSHINE HEART UP 11%; COMPUMEDICS DOWN 19%**
- * **FDA CLEARS NANOSONICS' TROPHON EPR PROBE CLEANER**
- * **MESOBLAST POSTS \$93m MAIDEN H1 PROFIT ON CEPHALON DEAL**
- * **BIODIEM H1 FIRST REVENUE \$252k; LOSS DOWN 35%**
- * **MAYNE PHARMA H1 \$1m PROFIT; REVENUE UP 188% TO \$27m; DIVIDEND**
- * **IMUGENE H1 \$744k PROFIT ON REVENUE UP 745% TO \$1.7m**
- * **NOVOGEN H1 REVENUE UP 17% TO \$6m**
- * **CYCLOPHARM PROFIT DOWN 78% TO \$450k; REVENUE DOWN 15%**
- * **COMPUMEDICS H1 REVENUE DOWN 5% TO \$15m, RETURN TO RED**
- * **ANTEO, VIRAX H1 REVENUE UP, LOSS DOWN**
- * **AGENIX SHORTFALL RAISES \$220k**
- * **OCHRE HEALTH TAKES 325.5% PROFIT ON 4m BIOMD SHARES**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market slipped 0.12 percent on Monday February 28, 2011 with the S&P ASX 200 down 6.0 points to 4830.5 points. Eleven of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 19 fell, four traded unchanged and six were untraded.

Sunshine Heart was best, up 0.4 cents or 10.5 percent to 4.2 cents with 123,030 shares traded, followed by Clinuvel up 10.5 percent to \$2.21 with 35,150 shares traded. Genetic Technologies climbed 8.8 percent; Nanosonics was up 7.8 percent; Virax was up 6.9 percent; Benitec and Tissue Therapies rose more than two percent; with Alchemia and Resmed up more than one percent.

Friday's best, Compumedics led the falls, down three cents or 18.75 percent to 13 cents with 232,000 shares traded, followed by Genera down 17.95 percent to 32 cents with 191,311 shares traded and Optiscan down 11.4 percent to 6.2 cents with 10,422 shares traded. Advanced Surgical and Prana lost more than eight percent; Bionomics was down 5.1 percent; Living Cell and Phosphagenics fell four percent or more; Cellmid, Prima and Viralytics lost more than three percent; Phylogica, Starpharma and Universal Biosensors shed more than two percent; with Acrux, Chemgenex, Circadian, Impedimed and Pharmaxis down more than one percent.

NANOSONICS

Nanosonics says it has received US Food and Drug Administration 510k clearance to market the Trophon EPR ultrasound probe cleaner and the chemical indicator accessory. Nanosonics said the "significant achievement" would allow it to commence a staged release of product into the world's largest ultrasound market, where there were more than 200 million ultrasound examinations performed annually.

Nanosonics chief executive officer David Radford told Biotech Daily that he expected sales to begin in North America by July 2011 and the distribution contract with General Electric was on-track for finalization.

Nanosonics said the FDA clearance would allow it to commence working with key opinion leaders throughout the US.

Nanosonics was up seven cents or 7.8 percent to 97 cents with 1.4 million shares traded.

MESOBLAST

Mesoblast has reported its first half-year net profit after tax for the six months to December 31, 2010 of \$93,107,780.

Mesoblast said the total revenue was up 36,068 percent to \$103,952,000 for the six months, primarily the \$US100 million upfront fee from Cephalon (BD: Dec 8, 2010).

Diluted earnings per share was 55.43 cents compared to the previous year's loss of 4.25 cents per share and its net tangible asset backing per share was 14.7 cents, down 8.7 percent from the previous corresponding period.

Mesoblast was up five cents or one percent to \$5.22.

BIODIEM

Biodiem says its first influenza vaccine royalties provided revenue of \$252,317 for the six months to December 31, 2010, reducing the net loss after tax 35 percent to \$1,356,536.

Biodiem said the royalty payment came from the introduction of its Nasovac live attenuated influenza vaccine into India in July 2010 (BD: Dec 16, 2010).

The company said net tangible assets per share fell 31.4 percent from 5.39 cents to 3.7 cents for the six months to December 31, 2010.

Biodiem said the diluted loss per share fell from 2.7 cents for the six months to December 31, 2009 to 0.14 cents for the six months to December 31, 2010.

Biodiem was untraded at 16 cents.

MAYNE PHARMA

Mayne says its net profit after tax for the six months to December 31, 2010 was \$1,134,000 compared to the previous corresponding period's \$2,172,000 loss.

Mayne posted a full-year maiden net profit after tax of \$3,253,119 for the 12 months to June 30, 2010 on revenue up 8,638 percent to \$36,712,915 (BD: Aug 31, 2011).

Today, Mayne said revenue for the six months to December 31, 2010 was up 188 percent to \$26,898,000 following Halcygen's merger with Mayne (BD: Sep 25, 2009).

Mayne said that diluted earnings per share was 0.75 cents compared to the previous period's loss of 2.14 cents.

The company's net tangible assets per share increased 109.5 percent to 8.8 cents.

Mayne said it would pay a special fully-franked dividend of 1.0 cent per share for a record date of March 9, 2011 to be paid on March 25, 2011.

Mayne fell 11 cents or 13 percent to 74 cents with 2.9 million shares traded.

IMUGENE

Imugene says its net profit after tax for the six months to December 31, 2010 was \$743,581 compared to the previous corresponding period's \$883,074 loss.

Imugene said revenue for the six months to December 31, 2010 was up 745 percent to \$1,744,294.

Imugene said it returned to profit following the signing of a global licencing agreement with Novartis Animal Health in 2010, for which fees of \$US1.75 million were received during the last quarter of 2010 (BD: Oct 13, Nov 12, 2010).

Imugene said that diluted earnings per share was 0.51 cents compared to the previous period's loss of 0.61 cents.

The company's net tangible assets per share increased 25 percent to 1.5 cents.

Imugene was untraded at five cents.

NOVOGEN

Novogen says revenue increased 16.7 percent to \$5,972,000 for the six months to December 31, 2010, with the net loss after tax down 28.8 percent to \$4,231,000.

Novogen said revenue was primarily from sales of consumer goods Promensil for menopause and Trinovin for prostate health as well as interest on cash balances and royalties from licences.

Novogen said the diluted loss per share fell from 5.8 cents for the six months to December 31, 2009 to 4.1 cents for the six months to December 31, 2010.

Novogen was up one cent or 6.25 percent to 17 cents.

CYCLOPHARM

Cyclopharm says its net profit after tax was down 78 percent to \$450,106 for the 12 months to December 31, 2010 on revenue down 14.7 percent to \$9,464,605.

Cyclopharm said it had commissioned its first positron emission tomography (PET) scanning facility at Macquarie University Hospital and received good manufacturing process (GMP) approval from the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration.

The company said the molecular imaging business contributed revenues of \$21,842 compared to no income in the previous year.

Cyclopharm said that during the year property, plant and equipment increased to \$10,059,528 due primarily to the development of the facility at Macquarie University Hospital.

The company said sales of products Technegas Plus generators and patient administration sets, decreased 15 percent from \$11.09 million to \$9.46 million.

Cyclopharm said the sale of patient administration sets were "dampened by the global molybdenum shortage ... used to make Technetium99 which is an essential component of Technegas".

Cyclopharm said that its net tangible assets per share was constant at seven cents at December 31, 2010.

The company said that diluted earnings per share was 0.26 cents compared to the previous year's 1.2 cents.

Cyclopharm was unchanged at eight cents.

COMPUMEDICS

Compumedics says its revenue for the six months to December 31, 2010 fell 4.9 percent to \$15,243,000 taking the company to a loss after tax of \$1,140,000.

Compumedics posted an after tax profit of \$300,000 for the six months to December 31, 2009 and \$451,000 for the 12 months to June 30, 2010 (BD: Aug 27, 2010).

Compumedics said that the strength of the Australian dollar affected its earnings, which would have been a slight profit in constant currency.

Compumedics said it expected sales to increase in its core sleep, brain and ultrasonic blood-flow monitoring business.

The company said the net tangible asset backing per share was down 13.75 percent to 4.4 cents.

Compumedics said diluted loss per share was 0.01 cents for the six months to December 31, 2010 compared to diluted earnings per share of 0.2 cents for the previous corresponding period.

Compumedics fell three cents or 18.75 percent to 13 cents.

ANTEO

Anteo said revenue the six months to December 31, 2010 was up 331 percent to \$707,619 with net loss after tax reduced eight percent to \$985,730.

Anteo said the revenue related to licences for its Mix & Go technology.

Anteo said the diluted loss per share fell 50 percent from 0.4 cents for the six months to December 31, 2009 to 0.2 cents for the six months to December 31, 2010.

Anteo fell 0.3 cents or 3.5 percent to 8.3 cents with 23 million shares traded.

VIRAX

Virax said revenue was up 382 percent to \$772,000 revenues for the six months to December 31, 2010, with its net loss after tax reduced 57 percent to \$301,000.

Virax said the funds were primarily from the recoupment of costs associated with the South African HIV clinical trial.

The company said the diluted loss per share fell from 0.53 cents for the six months to December 31, 2009 to 0.17 cents for the six months to December 31, 2010.

Virax was up 0.2 cents or 6.9 percent to 3.1 cents.

AGENIX

Agenix says it has raised \$219,200 through the placement of 8,874,000 rights issue shortfall shares at 2.5 cents a share with one attaching option for every five new shares.

The rights issue closed on November 19, 2010 raising \$486,004 from the issue of 19,440,152 shares.

Agenix said that new investors included Rubicon Nominees, a company associated with UK-based institutional investor, City of London Group and its former chief executive officer John Greenhalgh.

Agenix said Mr Greenhalgh had "a long and distinguished career as an investment manager with a track record for recognizing under-valued investment opportunities".

The company said other new institutional investors include Onyx Capital and Kings Park Capital.

Agenix fell 0.1 cents or 4.35 percent to 2.2 cents.

BIOMD

Ochre Health Group has reduced its substantial holding in Biomd from 13,000,000 shares (10.09%) to 9,100,000 shares (6.87%).

The Hobart-based Ochre said it sold 3,900,000 shares on-market for \$253,890 or an average price of 6.51 cents per share.

Ochre bought the 13,000,000 shares as part of a placement shortfall at two cents a share or \$260,000.

Biomd was unchanged at six cents.