



Biotech Daily

Friday November 25, 2011

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: IMPEDIMED UP 8%; GENERA DOWN 15%**
- * **US PATENT ALLOWED FOR VIRALYTICS CAVATAK**
- * **CYBOTEL TAKES 9% OF CATHRX; PFM, JEK NAN YAP DILUTED**
- * **REVA DOUBLES PLANT SIZE; LOSES EXECUTIVE ERIC SCHMID**
- * **BIO-MELBOURNE BREAKFASTS ON SUNSCREEN NANOPARTICLES**
- * **NUSEP OPTIONS RAISE \$1.8m**
- * **USCOM APPOINTS SHEENA JACK, CHRISTIAN BERNECKER DIRECTORS**
- * **PHARMAUST REQUESTS EPICHEM JV TRADING HALT**
- * **WOODFORD TAKE 18% OF BLUECHIIP**
- * **TYRIAN CFO MICHAEL VAMOS RESIGNS**
- * **IM MEDICAL LOSES DIRECTOR DR MARK SCOTT, RADIOLOGY BUSINESS**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 1.48 percent on Friday November 25, 2011 with the S&P ASX 200 down 59.9 points to 3,984.3 points. Fourteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 17 fell, three traded unchanged and six were untraded. All three Big Caps fell.

Impedimed was the best, up four cents or 7.8 percent to 55 cents with 11,898 shares traded. Living Cell and Viralytics were up more than five percent; Alchemia, Compumedics, Genetic Technologies, Neuren and Patrys were up four percent or more; Anteo was up 3.3 percent; Allied Health, Bionomics, and Tissue Therapies rose more than two percent; with Circadian and Pharmaxis up more than one percent.

Genera led the falls, down two cents or 15.4 percent to 11 cents with 30,072 shares traded, followed by Psivida down 11.4 percent to \$1.24 with 504 shares traded and Optiscan down 10 percent to nine cents with 50,000 shares traded. Prana lost 9.1 percent; Phylogica was down 8.3 percent; Phosphagenics and Universal Biosensors both lost 6.25 percent; Clinuvel, QRX and Starpharma fell more than four percent; Antisense and Nanosonics were down more than three percent; Prima shed 2.9 percent; Biota, Cochlear, CSL and Mesoblast were down more than one percent; with Acrux, Resmed and, Sirtex down by less than one percent.

VIRALYTICS

Viralytics says the US Patent and Trademark Office has allowed a patent covering a Coxsackie A virus capable of infecting cancer cells substantially in the absence of intercellular adhesion molecule-1 (ICAM-1).

Viralytics chief scientific officer Dr Darren Shafren said the company's lead compound Cavatak (Coxsackievirus A 21) "targets and destroys cancerous cells following binding to surface expressed ICAM-1".

"The generation of this novel Coxsackie A virus, that can infect cancer cells in the absence of ICAM-1 expands the range of cancers that Viralytics panel of oncolytic viruses can potentially target," Dr Shafren said.

Viralytics said the patent covered a form of Coxsackievirus A21 generated following passage in cells not expressing ICAM-1 but expressing decay accelerating factor.

The company said that decay accelerating factor (DAF) expression was up-regulated on the surface of many cancerous cells including ovarian, colorectal and gastric cancers, making it a target for Coxsackievirus A21.

Viralytics said that the allowed claims covered specific changes induced on the surface of the Coxsackievirus A21 during the bio-selection process on DAF-expressing cancer cells that were believed to confer the extended scope of cancer cell targeting.

Viralytics said it was in multi-site patient recruitment for its US-based phase II trial of Cavatak in late stage melanoma patients under an investigation new drug application allowed by the US Food and Drug Administration.

The company said the first patient was expected to be injected with Cavatak in December, 2100 and it was "close to completing" its phase I trial safety in Australia, for intravenous delivery of Cavatak for late stage colorectal, prostate, breast and melanoma cancer.

Viralytics was up 2.5 cents or 5.5 percent to 48 cents.

CATHRX

The Malaysia-based Cybotel Industries has become a substantial shareholder in Cathrx with the acquisition of 14,563,496 shares or 8.894 percent.

The initial substantial shareholder notice said that Cybotel acquired the shares for \$1,456,350 or 10 cents a share.

At the same time, PFM Cornerstone's unchanged 24,343,610 shareholding was diluted from 22.174 percent to 14.866 percent and Jek Nan Yap's unchanged 13,000,000 shareholding was diluted from 9.07 percent to 7.939 percent

Cathrx was untraded at 10 cents.

REVA MEDICAL

Reva says it will double the size of its San Diego facility and has extended the lease for a further six years.

Reva said the company would lease about 37,000 square feet (3,437 square metres) in line with budgeted requirements to support its manufacturing scale-up, including the upcoming clinical activities of the Rezolve bio-resorbable cardiac stent.

Reva said the annual base rent ranged from about \$37,000 a month in the first year to about \$60,000 a month at the end of the lease in 2018.

The company said that with the "transition from research and development into clinical trials and, ultimately, commercialization, the departure of its vice-president of advanced technologies Eric Schmid was also announced yesterday".

Reva was untraded at 58 cents.

BIOMELBOURNE NETWORK

The Bio-Melbourne Network says its December 13 Bio-Breakfast will discuss the use of nanoparticles in sunscreens with a focus on regulatory and safety issues.

Bio-Melbourne chief executive officer Michelle Gallaher said that nanoparticles have been used in sunscreens and cosmetics for nearly two decades.

"This year there have been calls for tighter labeling laws on products containing nanoparticles and even calls for the use of nano-free sunscreens in school Sunsmart programs," Ms Gallaher said.

The Bio-Melbourne Network said that Ego Pharmaceuticals scientific affairs Manager Dr Kerry Greive would discuss the development of sunscreens containing nanoparticles and the public relations approach when launching these products.

The Network said RMIT University medical sciences professor and coordinator of Nanosafe Australia Prof Paul Wright would discuss the latest research findings in nanoparticle safety in sunscreen use and the manufacture of these products.

The December 13 2011 Bio-Breakfast will be held at Cinema 1 at ACMI in Federation Square, Melbourne, with registration from 7:15am.

For more information and to book go to: <http://www.biomelbourne.org/events/view/214>.

NUSEP

Nusep says it has received a request to exercise 12,092,691 of the listed 15 cent share options raising \$1,813,904.

Nusep was unchanged at nine cents.

USCOM

Uscom has appointed Sheena Jack and Christian Bernecker as directors replacing ejected directors Phil Kiely and Jochen Bonitz (BD: Nov 8, 22, 23, 24).

Uscom said new directors brought "substantial skills in health management and corporate financial administration ... have been appointed to oversee the consolidation of Uscom, the management of costs in the short term and the drive new incremental growth opportunities including business partnerships and technology licencing".

The company said Ms Jack was the chief financial officer of HCF and had 26 years experience as a finance professional and corporate executive across a range of corporate organizations including ASX listed, Government and not-for-profit companies, including mature and start up businesses.

Uscom said Mr Bernecker had experience as a corporate executive and director with a background of capital management and investment across a range of companies including life sciences in listed and unlisted entities.

The company said Mr Bernecker held a Bachelor of Commerce degree.

Uscom had been in a trading halt and last traded at 11 cents.

PHARMAUST, EPICHEM

Pharmaust has requested a trading halt "pending an announcement detailing an increase in joint venture interest in relation to wholly-owned subsidiary Epichem".

In 2008, Epichem began a collaboration with Curtin University of Technology to develop orally available insulin mimetics for diabetes (BD: Nov 4, 2008).

Trading will resume on November 29, 2011 or on an earlier announcement.

Pharmaust was untraded at 1.6 cents.

[BLUECHIIP](#)

Dr Stephen and Ms Patricia Woodford have increased their holding in Bluechiip from 12,806,664 shares (16.36%) to 14,162,664 shares (18.04%).

The Woodfrods of Woy Woy New South Wales said they acquired the 1,356,000 shares for \$221,680 or an average price of 16.3 cents a share.

Bluechiip was unchanged at 24 cents.

[TYRIAN DIAGNOSTICS](#)

Tyrian says chief financial officer and assistant company secretary Michael Vamos resigned effective from November 24, 2011.

Tyrian said that on August 24, 2011 it would re-structure of its operations, a plan that included making all senior executives redundant.

The company said it had engaged Balanced Accounting Solutions to provide accounting and financial management services for the company.

Tyrian was untraded at 0.1 cents.

[IM MEDICAL](#)

IM Medical says Dr Mark Scott has resigned as a director following a shareholder unanimous vote to sell the radiology business.

IM Medical said with Capitol Health it was proceeding to fulfill the required completion obligations for the transaction, with November 30, 2011 as the expected effective completion date.

IM Medical was unchanged at 0.8 cents.