



Biotech Daily

Friday February 24, 2012

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

*** ASX UP, BIOTECH DOWN:**

- BIONICHE, PRIMA UP 9%, PHYLOGICA DOWN 13%

*** TYRIAN LOSES ALL KEY STAFF; REVIEW AWAITING SUITOR**

*** QRX H1 REVENUE UP 242% TO \$356k, \$5.3m TO GO, LOSS DOWN 43%**

*** PROBIOTEC H1 REVENUE DOWN 4% TO \$34.5m, PROFIT UP 162% TO \$3m**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market climbed 0.48 percent on Friday February 24, 2012 with the S&P ASX 200 up 20.6 points to 4306.8 points.

Ten of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 12 fell, 12 traded unchanged and six were untraded.

Bioniche and Prima were the best, both up 8.7 percent to 50 cents and 25 cents, respectively, with 19,500 shares and 29.1 million shares traded, respectively; followed by Viralytics up 8.45 percent to 38.5 cents with 138,130 shares traded.

Sunshine Heart climbed 4.65 percent; Avita and Reva were up more than three percent; Acrux and Living Cell rose more than two percent; CSL was up 1.7 percent; with Cochlear, QRX and Sirtex up by less than one percent.

Phylogica led the falls, down half a cent or 12.8 percent to 3.4 cents, with 2.8 million shares traded, followed by Genera down 10 percent to 18 cents with 9,900 shares traded.

Circadian lost 6.5 percent; Antisense and Genetic Technologies fell four percent or more; Anteo, Optiscan and Starpharma were down more than three percent; Phosphagenics shed 2.6 percent; Bionomics and Tissue Therapies were down more than one percent; with Mesoblast and Resmed down by less than one percent.

TYRIAN DIAGNOSTICS

Tyrian's key staff, including chief executive officer Dr Jenny Harry, have resigned effective from today, February 24, 2012.

Tyrian said the head of business and legal affairs and company secretary Lisa Jones and chief scientific officer Dr Robyn Lindner had also resigned, with Andrew Blunden appointed as company secretary.

The company said that management and shareholder matters previously directed to Dr Harry should be directed to chairman Roger Amos.

Last year the Tyrian said that the termination of agreements by Bayer Cropscience triggered the review and staff terminations (BD: Aug 24, 2011).

Tyrian said that it had disposed of all fixed assets, ceased all further research and development work and vacated its facility at North Ryde.

The company said its assets consisted of intellectual property, including patents, cash and security deposits.

Tyrian said it was negotiating a cash settlement with Bayer regarding the termination of its agreements for the development, commercialization and manufacture of agricultural diagnostic products using its Diagnostiq platform and was continuing efforts to licence its tuberculosis intellectual property for a rapid protein diagnostic test to companies developing new point-of-care diagnostic platforms with higher sensitivity of detection than current technologies.

The company said it was party to a distribution agreement with Neoclone LLC for the manufacture and distribution of Tyrian's antibodies for the detection of tuberculosis proteins and under its licence agreement with Speedx Pty Ltd, Tyrian received an up-front payment in January 2012 and would receive additional payments on the achievement of milestones, a percentage of sublicensing revenues and royalties on net sale of products. Tyrian said it had begun a "process to review and pursue other proposals to realize value for shareholders" and had engaged TC Corporate's Robert Fraser to advise on appropriate investment and acquisition opportunities.

The company said that TC Corporate had extensive merger and acquisition and capital markets experience and had been assisting Tyrian during the restructure.

Tyrian was unchanged at 0.2 cents with 7.6 million shares traded.

QRX

QRX says revenue for the six months to December 31, 2011 was up 242 percent to \$356,000, with a net loss after tax down 43 percent to \$5,652,000.

Actavis Inc paid QRX \$US6 million (\$A5.6 million) in December as an upfront fee for its licence for the company's Moxduo Immediate Release dual opioid pain treatment (BD: Dec 21, 2011 (Newsflash); Jan 22, 2012).

QRX chief financial officer Chris Campbell told Biotech Daily that the \$US6 million payment would mostly be recognized in the full year period to June 30, 2012, "for financial reporting reasons only".

QRX said that \$301,000 of the \$US6 million had been recognized in the year to December 31, 2011.

The company said its net tangible assets per share increased 11.8 percent to 19 cents and diluted loss per share fell 56.0 percent to four cents.

The company said it had cash and cash equivalent of \$32,852,000 at December 31, 2011 compared to \$21,096,000 at December 31, 2010.

QRX was up one cent or 0.6 percent to \$1.70.

PROBIOTEC

Probiotec says its revenue for the six months to December 31, 2011 fell 4.4 percent to \$34,508,000, with net profit after tax up 162.4 percent to \$2,671,000.

The company said the net tangible assets per share was down 11.2 percent to 72.5 cents.

Probiotec said diluted earnings per share was 5.05 cents compared to the previous corresponding period's 1.92 cents.

Probiotec said no dividend would be paid.

The company said it held cash and cash equivalents of \$780,542 at December 31, 2011 compared to \$1,197,164 at December 31, 2010.

Probiotec fell 5.5 cents or 14.1 percent to 33.5 cents.