# Biotech Daily

Thursday March 7, 2013

*Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies*

*** ASX DOWN, BIOTECH UP: CELLMID UP 22%, PATRYS DOWN 13%**

*** PATRYS PAT-SM6 SAFE, SIGNS OF EFFICACY IN MULTIPLE MYELOMA**

*** PRANA TELLS ASX PBT2-TAU CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT 'MATERIAL'**

*** ALLAN GRAY TAKES 12% OF TISSUE THERAPIES**

*** GRAHAM DURBIN TAKES 7% OF GENERA**

*** ALCHEMIA REQUESTS CAPITAL RAISING TRADING HALT**

*** BIOLOGICAL REPOSITORIES SOCIETY'S FIRST SYDNEY MEETING**

## MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 0.15 percent on Thursday March 7, 2013 with the S&P ASX 200 down 7.6 points to 5,109.2 points.

Sixteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 10 fell, 10 traded unchanged and four were untraded. All three Big Caps were down.

Cellmid was the best, up 0.8 cents or 22.2 percent to 4.4 cents, with 57.7 million shares traded.

Benitec, Tissue Therapies and Viralytics climbed more than eight percent; QRX was up 6.6 percent; Psivida was up five precent; Avita, Pharmaxis and Prana were up four percent or more; Bionomics rose 2.7 percent; Genetic Technologies, Heartware, Mesoblast and Osprey were up one percent or more; with Sirtex and Starpharma up by less than one percent.

Patrys led the falls, down 0.5 cents or 12.8 percent to 3.4 cents with 1.9 million shares traded.

Prima lost 8.7 percent; Phosphagenics fell 6.7 percent; Atcor and Ellex were down more than four percent; Neuren shed 2.8 percent; Anteo, Clinuvel, CSL, GI Dynamics and Resmed were down more than one percent; with Cochlear and Reva down by less than one percent.

PATRYS

Patrys says its phase I/IIa trial of PAT-SM6 for multiple myeloma has shown the drug safe with signs of antibody activity in the first group of treated patients.

Patrys said the first group of three patients was treated at Germany's University Hospital of Würzburg department of haematology and oncology, with each patient receiving four doses of 0.3mg/kg of the PAT-SM6 antibody.

Patrys said the patients, aged between 67 and 71 years, had advanced multiple myeloma and had failed or were resistant to multiple courses of chemotherapy, including Velcade and Revlimid, with therapeutic options limited to clinical trials.

The company said that patients received four intravenous doses of PAT-SM6 0.3mg/kg, over two weeks and they were followed-up for 36 days.

Patrys said that all doses were well tolerated with no serious adverse events or dose-limiting toxicities.

The company said that none of the patients had received additional doses of PAT-SM6.

Patrys said the data safety monitoring board gave approval for the second cohort to begin with patients receiving a minimum of four doses of PAT-SM6 at 1.0mg/kg.

The company said that prior to treatment with PAT-SM6, multiple myeloma cells were extracted from the bone-marrow of the patients and tested for their ability to bind the antibody.

Patrys said that in all three patients, between 80 and 100 percent of their cancer cells bound PAT-SM6 strongly and specifically, with no binding of the antibody to the non-malignant cells, confirming the absolute specificity of PAT-SM6 for cancer cells.

The company said that the analysis was performed by both immuno-histo-chemistry and flow cytometry.

Patrys said that all patients had significantly reduced numbers of white blood cells, red blood cells and platelets prior to their inclusion in the trial and it was observed that, post treatment with PAT-SM6, "these blood counts improved significantly and more rapidly than might have been expected in this group of very sick patients".

The company said that there were no significant drug-related changes in clinical chemistry or changes noted on electro-cardiogram.

Patrys said that all three patients had rapidly progressive disease and this was confirmed by rising levels of serum M protein, serum free light chains and immunoglobulins.

The company said that as part of their follow-up post treatment, the overall status of the patient's immune system was monitored and it was noted that in all patients, specialized T lymphocytes (T Regulatory cells and cytotoxic T cells), B cells and natural killer cells were transiently but positively stimulated.

Although not conclusive, such changes clearly indicate that PAT-SM6 is active in patients and is stimulating the immune system, Patrys said.

The company said that following inclusion in the trial, two patients went on to receive additional chemotherapy due to advancing disease and both had an unexpectedly positive response to drugs that they had previously been resistant to.

"This may suggest that PAT-SM6 had an influence on the sensitivity of the malignant cells," Patrys said. "It is known from the literature that cancer cells can be converted from resistant to sensitive when treated with agents that bind to the cancer-specific form of GRP78, as in the case of PAT-SM6".

University Hospital of Würzburg lead investigator Dr Leo Rasche said the patients in the trial were "extremely sick and to see early signs of antibody activity in the face of resistant disease is exciting and promising".

Dr Rasche said the second group was being "aggressively" recruited.

Patrys fell 0.5 cents or 12.8 percent to 3.4 cents with 1.9 million shares traded.

## PRANA BIOTECHNOLOGY

Prana has told the ASX that its March 4, 2013 announcement that PBT2 reduced the damage caused by the tau protein was both material and previously released.

Prana said in an announcement to the ASX entitled 'PBT2 Reduces Cognitive Impairment Caused by Tau Protein Accumulation' on March 4 that data on the ability of PBT2 to act on both the tau protein and amyloid beta to prevent impairment in Alzhemier's disease would be presented at a conference in Italy between March 6 and 10, 2013, but provided no further details.

Prana's share price closed up five cents or 25 percent to 25 cents with 2.6 million shares traded, following the announcement.

Today, Prana published its responses to a series of ASX questions relating to the material nature of the announcement and whether the company was in compliance with Listing Rule 3.1.

Prana said the announcement was material and it was in compliance.

The company cited previous articles that had linked PBT2 with the tau protein including one from March 2012 entitled ' PBT2 Reduces Cognitive Impairment Caused by Tau Protein Accumulation' (BD: Mar 26, 2012).

Today, Prana said the data would be published to the ASX on March 8 ahead of the presentation on March 9, 2013.

Prana was up one cent or 4.4 percent to 23.5 cents with 587,130 shares traded.

## TISSUE THERAPIES

Allan Gray Australia (formerly Orbis Investment Management) has become a substantial shareholders in Tissue Therapies with 25,000,000 shares (11.68%)

The initial substantial shareholder notice said that Allan Gray participated in the recent $8.7 million placement at 21 cents a share (BD: Feb 25, 2013).

Tissue Therapies was up two cents or 8.5 percent to 25.5 cents.

## GENERA BIOSYSTEMS

Durbin Supperannuation has increased its substantial shareholder in Genera from 4,737,586 shares (6.28%) to 6,046,380 shares (7.28%).

The Hunter's Hill Sydney-based Durbin Superannuation said that it acquired 1,308,794 shares for $140,656 or 10.75 cents a share.

The substantial shareholder notice was signed by director Graham Durbin.

Genera was unchanged at 10 cents.

## ALCHEMIA

Alchemia has requested a trading halt "pending the release of an announcement regarding a proposed capital raising".

Trading will resume on March 11, 2013 or on an earlier announcement.

Alchemia last traded at 34.5 cents.

## INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR BIOLOGICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL REPOSITORIES

The International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories says it will hold this year's meeting in Sydney, from May 5 to 9, 2013.

Bluechiip chief executive officer Brett Schwarz told Biotech Daily the Sydney meeting was the first time the Society had held its annual conference in the Southern Hemisphere.

He said that Bluechiip was one of the meetings major sponsors.

The Society said that the meeting's theme was 'Turning the World Upside Down: Emerging Perspectives on Biorepositories'.

The Society said that the program covered: cutting edge biorepository developments; emerging and cross-cutting issues; new biological perspectives in biospecimen science; securing components of our natural world; innovative technologies; late breaking international policy issues and global harmonization efforts related to biobanking, the Nagoya Protocol and its implications for bio-banks; and bio-banking for translational science: mobilizing research specimens from bench to bedside.

The Society said that an exhibit program of more than 50 companies would display the latest technological advancements in bio-specimen sciences, along with a wide-variety of educational and corporate workshops and networking opportunities.

The meeting will be held at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre in Darling Harbour.

For registration and exhibition reservations go to: www.isber.org/2013.