



Biotech Daily

Thursday May 30, 2013

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX DOWN, BIOTECH EVEN:
- BIONOMICS UP 8%, COMPUMEDICS DOWN 4%**
- * **USCOM TO BUY NZ'S PULSECOR FOR \$2.5m IN SCRIP**
- * **ABS NOVACELL PROPOSES NUSEP FRACTIONATION INDIA FRANCHISE**
- * **PSIVIDA CLAIMS NEW 'BIG PHARMA' EVALUATION AGREEMENT**
- * **BIONICHE REJECTS 2nd MEETING REQUISITION**
- * **REVA AGM DISSENT ON AUDITORS**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 0.88 percent on Thursday May 30, 2013, with the S&P ASX 200 down 44.0 points to 4,930.7 points.

Twelve of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 11 fell, 13 traded unchanged and four were untraded. All three Big Caps fell.

Bionomics was the best, up three cents or 8.2 percent to 39.5 cents with 150,171 shares traded, followed by Phosphagenics up eight percent to 13.5 cents with 513,583 shares traded.

Avita and QRX climbed five percent or more; Psivida was up 4.7 percent; Mesoblast and Nanosonics were up more than three percent; Allied Health rose 2.6 percent; with Circadian, Medical Developments, Sirtex and Starpharma up more than one percent.

Compumedics led the falls, down 0.2 cents or 4.4 percent to 4.3 cents with 12,600 shares traded, followed by Prana down 4.2 percent to 23 cents with 105,000 shares traded and Prima down 4.1 percent to seven cents with 1.8 million shares traded.

Impedimed and Neuren lost more than three percent; Heartware, Living Cell and Resmed shed more than two percent; Clinuvel, GI Dynamics, Optiscan and Universal Biosensors were down more than one percent; with Cochlear and CSL down by less than one percent.

USCOM

Uscom says it will acquire New Zealand's Pulsecor and its non-invasive central blood pressure measurement system for \$2.5 million in scrip.

Uscom said it would acquire all Pulsecor technology, products and 34 global patents and patent applications related to measurement and monitoring of blood pressure in exchange for five million Uscom shares valued at 50 cents a share, pending due diligence.

The company said that Pulsecor was valued at \$NZ2.9million (\$A2.43 million) at its last capital raising in May 2011.

Uscom said that the Pulsecor central blood pressure measurement methods were developed at the Weill Cornell Medical College in New York and the Pulsecor BP Plus product was on sale with US Food and Drug Administration 510k, European Conformité Européenne (CE) mark and Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration approval.

The company said that the BP Plus device provided information about the heart and vessels which could be used to detect early cardiovascular disease and improve management of hypertension.

Uscom said that the BP Plus was an improvement on current blood pressure measurement methods and could be used in all research and clinical environments including intensive care units, operating theatres, medical clinics and for in home use.

The company said that current methods measured blood pressure in the arm or hand, while the BP Plus measured central blood pressure non-invasively.

Weill Cornell professor of anesthesiology and inventor of the Pulsecor devices Prof Nigel Sharrock said the sale to Uscom would "ensure that Pulsecor products have the maximum clinical and commercial impact".

"We have spent 10 years developing Pulsecor and we believe these products are poised to change global hypertension practice," Prof Sharrock said. "There is a fine scientific and cultural fit between Uscom and Pulsecor; both companies have world leading devices meeting urgently required clinical needs in growing global markets."

Uscom said that Prof Sharrock would join its medical advisory board on completion of the transaction.

Uscom executive chairman Rob Phillips said the acquisition would bring "scientific, commercial and strategic synergies".

"We believe this acquisition will change the cardiovascular medical device market and is anticipated to provide immediate access to revenue for Uscom as we feed the BP Plus into our developing global distribution channels," Mr Phillips said.

Uscom was untraded at 21 cents.

NUSEP

Nusep says that 90 percent subsidiary Prime Biologics Pte Ltd has received a proposal to establish a franchise plasma fractionation facility in Hyderabad India from ABS Novacell.

Nusep said that parties associated with ABS Novacell would provide the capital to establish and operate the facility and the capital raised by ABS Novacell would pay for the Prime fractionation equipment and initial trial production runs.

ABS Novacell is the Indian subsidiary of the New Jersey based American Biosources Inc. The company said that ABS Novacell would operate the Indian Prime plasma fractionation facility in return for licencing fees, royalties and an agreement to purchase the consumable membranes from Nusep.

Nusep said that it and Prime were finalizing the funding to obtain approval for the first sales from the Singapore fractionation facility.

Nusep was up 0.7 cents or 13.5 percent to 5.9 cents.

PSIVIDA

Psivida says it has signed its second funded technology evaluation agreement with an unnamed pharmaceutical company.

Psivida said it was the second evaluation agreement this year and the third in 12 months. The company said that the agreement would evaluate its Durasert drug delivery technology for the pharmaceutical company's products in ophthalmology.

Psivida said that the Durasert technology system delivered specific quantities of drugs directly to a target site in the body at controlled rates for predetermined periods of time ranging from weeks to months.

Psivida chief executive officer Dr Paul Ashton said he was "very pleased to be entering into a technology assessment agreement in ophthalmology with another global pharmaceutical company".

Dr Ashton said Psivida was becoming a specialty pharmaceuticals company developing its own products, while looking for ways to use its technology platforms to develop new products.

"Technology agreements such as this enable us work with major companies further expanding our reach and increasing our shots on goal," Dr Ashton said.

Psivida said it had developed three of the four sustained release devices for retinal diseases that have been approved in either the US or Europe, the most recent being Iluvien, partnered with Alimera and approved in multiple EU countries.

The company said it was developing an injectable, sustained release product to treat posterior uveitis and an injectable, bioerodible product to treat glaucoma and ocular hypertension in collaboration with Pfizer.

Psivida said that sales of Iluvien for chronic diabetic macular oedema had begun in the UK and Germany and the US Food and Drug Administration had accepted a new application for Iluvien with a PDUFA decision date set for October 17, 2103.

The company said that should Iluvien be approved by the FDA it would receive a \$25 million milestone payment from Alimera and a 20 percent profit split on sales.

Psivida was up 15 cents or 4.7 percent to \$3.35.

BIONICHE LIFE SCIENCES

Bioniche says it has rejected a second meeting requisition from dissident shareholders led by William Bill Wells and Greg Gubit (BD: Apr 29, May 6, 2013)

Bioniche said that with the advice of legal counsel it had reviewed the second requisition for a shareholders meeting to replace the board and concluded that the delivery of the second requisition was "tacit acknowledgement that the first requisition was defective" and did not require Bioniche to call a special shareholders meeting under the Canada Business Corporations Act as a record date had been fixed and published for a scheduled meeting of shareholders.

Bioniche said it had considered the timing for a shareholder meeting and concluded that a meeting in accordance with the normal cycle was in the best interests of the shareholders and the company "as it allows shareholders time to consider the issues associated with a contested board election while not disrupting the important initiatives under way to divest the Animal Health business, as well as allowing time for the company to address its financial requirements and to re-partner Urocidin" (BD: May 14, 2103).

The company said the scheduled meeting would be held on November 5, 2013.

Bioniche said that counsel for Mr Wells and Mr Gubit intended to bring a Court application to require an earlier meeting and Bioniche would oppose that application.

Bioniche was untraded at 35 cents.

REVA MEDICAL

All resolutions to the Reva annual general meeting including director stock issues were passed overwhelmingly, except the change of auditors.

Reva said the resolution to appoint Ernst & Young as the independent registered public accounting firm was opposed by 5,234,246 US common stock votes (23.49%) with 17,057,556 votes (76.51%) in favor.

The re-election of directors James Schiro and Robert Stockman were passed unopposed with up to 3.51 percent of votes cast opposing stock issues to directors.

Reva has 33,172,203 US shares on issue equivalent to 330,979,530 Australian Chess depositary interests CDIs.

Reva was unchanged at 57 cents.