



# Biotech Daily

Friday July 5, 2013

*Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies*

- \* **ASX, BIOTECH UP: PRIMA UP 21%, ANTISENSE DOWN 8%**
- \* **PHARMAXIS WINS \$776k ARC GRANTS FOR 2 FIBROSIS PROJECTS**
- \* **PHARMAUST 950m SHARE EGM FOR PITNEY ACQUISITION**
- \* **CONSEGNA PLEADS SCHULTZ TO ASX 70% QUERY**
- \* **ALCHEMIA LOSES DIRECTOR NEROLIE WITHNALL**

## MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.98 percent on Friday July 5, 2013 with the S&P ASX 200 up 47.0 points to 4,841.7 points.

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

Prima was the best, up 1.5 cents or 20.8 percent to 8.7 cents, with 4.9 million shares traded, followed by Patrys up 12.5 percent to 2.7 cents with 1.6 million shares traded.

Ellex and Nanosonics climbed more than five percent; Viralytics was up 4.2 percent; Alchemia, Genetic Technologies, Pharmaxis and Starpharma were up more than three percent; Cochlear, Neuren and Universal Biosensors were up more than one percent; with Heartware, Psivida and Sirtex up by less than one percent.

Antisense led the falls, down 0.1 cents or 8.3 percent to 1.1 cents with 2.9 million shares traded.

GI Dynamics lost 6.35 percent; Clinuvel and Phylogica fell more than four percent; Allied Health and Tissue Therapies were down more than three percent; Bionomics shed 2.6 percent; Acrux and Anteo were down more than one percent; with CSL, Medical Developments, Mesoblast and QRX down by less than one percent.

## PHARMAXIS

Pharmaxis says it has been awarded \$775,646 in Australian Research Council Linkage grants for two research projects with the University of Sydney.

Pharmaxis said that the first three-year ARC grant of \$405,646, to be matched by the company, was for work with renal physician Prof Carol Pollock who was heading an investigation of PXS-4728A for renal fibrosis.

The company said that Prof Paul Young, Prof Daniela Traini and Dr Brian Oliver were developing advanced inhalation technology to deliver Pharmaxis' compounds to underlying fibrotic cells in the lung and would receive a three-year grant of \$370,000, also to be matched by the company.

Pharmaxis chief executive officer Gary Phillips said the company was "pleased that Pharmaxis research programs have been recognized twice in the current round of awards".

"Fibrotic damage to organs is an area of research which is being actively pursued by many pharmaceutical companies and potentially opens a wide field of indications for successful products," Mr Phillips said.

"There remains a high unmet medical need in many of these indications and a shortage of late stage clinical candidates," Mr Phillips said.

"Pharmaxis has three drug programs at the preclinical stage that target fibrosis and inflammatory diseases," Mr Phillips said.

"We continue to progress proof of concept work on the company's preclinical assets while also furthering discussions with third parties to secure additional funding to take them into the clinic," Mr Phillips said.

Pharmaxis was up half a cent or 3.6 percent to 14.5 cents with one million shares traded.

## PHARMAUST

Pharmaust investors will vote on the issue of 950 million shares and 112.5 million options relating to the acquisition of Pitney Pharmaceuticals and its three oncology platforms.

In April, Pharmaust said it would raise at least \$3 million and it had engaged Peloton Capital to undertake a placement at one cent a share to raise \$500,000 to fund costs associated with due diligence and working capital (BD: Apr 30, 2013).

Pharmaust said in April that the Sydney-based Pitney was developing three oncology platforms from Newsouth Innovations, the commercialization arm of the University of New South Wales targeting liver, bowel, ovarian, lung and cervical cancer and one of the platforms was the subject of an agreement for a veterinary product, while a second platform had completed two trials in humans and was ready for a phase II clinical trial.

Today, Pharmaust said that shareholders would vote to approve the stock issues as well as the election of directors Dr Roger Aston and Prof David Morris.

The meeting will be held on August 5, 2013 at Steve's Wine Cellar, 30 The Avenue, Nedlands, Western Australia at 12pm (AWST).

Pharmaust was untraded at one cent.

## CONSEGNA GROUP

Consegna has told the ASX that it is not aware of any information it has not announced which, if known, could explain recent trading in its securities.

The ASX said the company's share price rose 70 percent from 2.0 cents on June 21 to 3.4 cents today, July 5, 2013, and noted an increase in trading volume, today.

Consegna was up 0.6 cents or 20.7 percent to 3.5 cents with 5.7 million shares traded.

## ALCHEMIA

Alchemia says that non-executive director Nerolie Withnall has resigned.

Alchemia said that Ms Withnall joined the board prior to its initial public offering in December 2003 and had served as chair of the audit and risk committee.

Alchemia chairman Dr Mel Bridges said Ms Withnall brought significant public company and commercial experience to the board, as well as adding significant strategic insight.

Earlier this year, the company appointed Nathan Drona and Dr Susan Kelley as directors (BD: Mar 22, 2013).

Alchemia was up one cent or 3.2 percent to 32 cents.