



Biotech Daily

Friday September 6, 2013

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX FLAT, BIOTECH UP: PHYLOGICA UP 15%,
GENETIC TECHNOLOGIES DOWN 10%**
- * **'COALITION DECIDES ARC GRANTS' - SHADOW TREASURER JOE HOCKEY**
- * **FDA SETS OCTOBER DATE FOR QRX ON MOXDUO**
- * **STEFAN CROSS TO REPLACE MAYNE USA PRESIDENT PHIL HODGES**
- * **MICHAEL QUINERT REPLACES HEALTHLINX MALCOLM LUCAS-SMITH**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market edged up 0.05 percent on Friday September 6, 2013 with the S&P ASX 200 up 2.5 points to 5,145.0 points.

Nineteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, eight fell, nine traded unchanged and four were untraded.

Phylogica was the best, up 0.2 cents or 15.4 percent to 1.5 cents with 1.1 million shares traded.

Antisense climbed 7.1 percent; Reva was up 6.9 cents; Atcor, Avita and Universal Biosensors were up four percent or more; Mesoblast was up 3.2 percent; Impedimed, Patrys and Resmed rose more than two percent; Alchemia, Anteo, Benitec, Phosphagenics, Prima, Psivida and Viralytics were up one percent or more; with Acrux, Bionomics and Sirtex up by less than one percent.

Genetic Technologies led the falls, down 0.9 cents or 10.1 percent to eight cents with 458,000 shares traded.

Prana lost 5.1 percent; Osprey fell 4.7 percent; Living Cell and Medical Developments shed more than two percent; Neuren was down one percent; with Cochlear, CSL, Heartware, Nanosonics and QRX down by less than one percent.

LIBERAL NATIONAL PARTY COALITION

In its final costings document, the Coalition said it would reduce Australian Research Council funding by \$103 million over four years.

The Coalition has previously promised to retain both Australian Research Council and National Health and Medical Research Council funding levels (BD: Mar 5, 2013).

The coalition described the cut as "Funding from reprioritizing Australian Research Council spending".

In comments broadcast on ABC Radio National, yesterday September 5, Coalition Treasurer spokesman Joe Hockey criticized ARC funding of specific projects and said a Coalition Government would intervene to stop projects it did not approve.

"Even from Opposition we've been able to identify projects, like \$160,000 on the examination of sexuality and Islamic interpretations of reproductive health technologies in Egypt," Mr Hockey said.

The ABC Radio National PM program said that the lead investigator, Macquarie University senior lecturer Lisa Wynn, investigated three reproductive technologies and the relationship with religious societies, including "emergency contraception, also known as the morning after pill; erectile dysfunction drugs which is Viagra; and hymenoplasty [or] ... hymen reconstruction surgery".

The Minister for Innovation Senator Carr said that under the Labor Government, there had been no interference with grant funding which was decided by independent experts.

"In my six years or so that I have been the Minister I have never rejected any of the applications because I am confident in the rigour of the selection process," Senator Carr said.

The document entitled 'Fiscal Budget Impact Of Federal Coalition Policies' included increased spending on dementia research by \$120 million over four years, but made no mention of the Federal Government 45 percent Research and Development Tax Incentive, nor the National Health and Medical Research Council .

MAYNE PHARMA GROUP

Mayne Pharma says Stefan Cross has been appointed president of Mayne Pharma USA, effective from November 2013, replacing Metric founder Phil Hodges.

Mayne said that Mr Cross would be responsible for US business operations, including generic products and Metrics Contract Services, together with other US business development initiatives.

Mayne said that Mr Cross was business and corporate development vice-president and played a leading role in the commercialization of its Subacap super-generic itraconazole for fungal infections.

The company said that Mr Cross had been involved in the integration of Metrics and executing the business strategy in Australia and the US since he joined the business in 2012.

Mayne said that Mr Cross had more than 20 years industry experience and was previously Hospira's head of marketing for the Asia Pacific region and had spent six years with Mayne Pharma in Europe and Australia and eight years with FH Faulding & Co.

The company said that Mr Hodges would retire from his executive responsibilities at the end of December 2013 but would continue as a director and provide ongoing advice to ensure a smooth leadership transition.

Mayne was up 2.5 cents or 4.55 percent to 57.5 cents.

QRX PHARMA

QRX says it will meet with the US Food and Drug Administration on October 3, 2013 to discuss its Moxdua new drug application for moderate to severe acute pain.

QRX said the meeting was granted after the complete response letter in August and would focus on outstanding issues that needed to be addressed in the revised application and data validation documentation (BD: Aug 28, 2013).

The company said it was "nearing completion" of its full audit of more than 30 million data points for oxygen saturation from Study 022 to ensure data integrity.

QRX said that subject to advice from the FDA, it would refile the application incorporating the analysis as soon as possible after the meeting.

The company said it expected a new Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA) date by July 2014, preceded by an advisory committee meeting.

QRX fell half a cent or 0.7 percent to 72.5 cents.

HEALTHLINX

Healthlinx says that Michael Quinert has replaced director Malcolm Lucas-Smith as a director, with director Trent Telford replacing Mr Lucas-Smith as company secretary. Then the Healthlinx company secretary, Malcolm Lucas-Smith replaced John Evans as a director at the beginning of this year (Jan 20, 2013).

Today, Healthlinx said that Mr Quinert held Bachelor of Economics and Bachelor of Laws degrees from Monash University and had more than 27 years' experience as a commercial lawyer including three years with the Australian Securities Exchange and more than 20 years as a partner in two Melbourne law firms.

The company said that Mr Quinert had experience in assisting and advising public companies on capital raising and market compliance issues.

Healthlinx said that it had changed its registered office to the office of Peregrine Corporate, Level 19, 500 Collins Street, Melbourne.

Mr Quinert's law firm Quinert Rodda & Associates is at the same address and Mr Quinert is a director of Peregrine.

In May, accountants Hall Chadwick said that David Ross and Shanon Thomas had been appointed as joint and several administrators of Healthlinx, following the company's failure to commercialize its Ovplex test for ovarian cancer (BD: May 7, 2013).

In March, Healthlinx said that former chief executive officer Nick Gatsios had resigned, with Trent Telford and Richard Revelins appointed as directors (BD: Mar 21, 2013).

The company said at that time that the Sydney-based Mr Telford was a founder and director of Cocoon Data and had more than 15 years of experience in cross border capital raising and technology commercialization.

Healthlinx said the California-based Mr Revelins had more than 25 years experience in raising capital for ASX-listed companies, an executive director and principal of Melbourne's Peregrine Corporate and the managing director of Capello Capital, as well as a director of companies including Prana Biotechnology and formerly Prima, Select Vaccines and IM Medical.

Healthlinx is suspended and last traded at 0.1 cents.