



# Biotech Daily

Tuesday December 17, 2013

*Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies*

- \* **ASX UP, BIOTECH DOWN: ANTEO UP 7%; PHYLOGICA DOWN 11%**
- \* **UNILIFE, UNNAMED PHARMA DEAL FOR OCUJECT MICRO-INJECTION**
- \* **IMPEDIMED COLLABORATION ON NUTRITION, BODY COMPOSITION**
- \* **IM MEDICAL REQUESTS ACQUISITION, CAPITAL RAISING HALT**
- \* **NARELLE, ANDREW FAY DILUTED TO 9% OF MEDICAL AUSTRALIA**

## MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market climbed 0.27 percent on Tuesday December 17, 2013 with the S&P ASX 200 up 13.6 points to 5,103.2 points.

Twelve of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 14 fell, 10 traded unchanged and four were untraded. All three Big Caps were up.

Anteo was the best, up one cent or 6.7 percent to 16 cents with 4.4 million shares traded.

Living Cell climbed five percent; Prima was up 4.55 percent; Universal Biosensors was up 3.2 percent; Prana, Psivida, Reva and Tissue Therapies rose two percent or more; Benitec, Cochlear, Ellex and Sirtex were up one percent or more; with CSL, Nanosonics and Resmed up by less than one percent.

Phylogica led the falls, down 0.2 cents or 11.1 percent to 1.6 cents with 1.2 million shares traded.

Clinuvel lost 8.3 percent; Avita and Neuren fell five percent or more; Bionomics, Pharmaxis and Phosphagenics fell more than four percent; Mesoblast was down 3.1 percent; Atcor and QRX shed more than two percent; Acrux, Genetic Technologies and Viralytics were down more than one percent; with Medical Developments down by less than one percent.

## UNILIFE CORPORATION

Unilife says it has signed an agreement with an unnamed pharmaceutical company to use its Ocuject ocular drug delivery system for a target injectable eye therapy.

Unilife said the terms of the agreement were confidential but it would begin to generate revenue in January 2014.

The company said that the Ocuject platform was “a breakthrough technology for the accurate and precise delivery of small dose volumes measured in microliters into the eye”.

Unilife said that most ocular therapies for conditions such as age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy and diabetic macular oedema were administered with an intra-vitreous injection using a standard 1mL tuberculin syringe and needle.

The company said that the potential for gross dosing inaccuracy was “inherent with such conventional devices, which can compromise the ability of the drug to fully comply with its regulatory labeling requirements”.

Unilife said that Ocuject provided “a tenfold improvement in the precision of delivering doses as small as 10 uL, which helps pharmaceutical customers ensure compliance with dose requirements on the drug label”.

Unilife executive chairman Alan Shortall said that “to address unmet needs within the pharmaceutical industry, we have created a new, significant drug delivery device category”.

“Ocuject represents a game-changing delivery technology for ocular therapies, which is a large, fast-growing segment of the pharmaceutical market,” Mr Shortall said.

“We are pleased to have signed our first agreement for the Ocuject device platform, which is being pursued by a number of pharmaceutical companies seeking to maximize the clinical and commercial potential of approved and pipeline drugs that are targeted to treat a number of eye disorders,” Mr Shortall said.

Unilife said that the Ocuject platform was designed to deliver drugs with small dose volume of between 10 microliters and 500 microliters for delivery into the eye with a level of accuracy and precision not possible with conventional syringes.

The company said that by minimizing over-dosing, the device platform could reduce the risk of increased intraocular pressure and potentially minimize damage to the optic nerve and by minimizing the risk of under-dosing, it had the potential to help avoid delivery of a drug outside its therapeutic window where its clinical efficacy might be compromised.

Unilife said that the Ocuject platform had “the highest grade drug contact materials unlike syringes currently used to inject into the eye”.

Unilife fell half a cent or 0.6 percent to 81 cents with 2.6 million shares traded.

## IMPEDIMED

Impedimed says it is working with New Zealand food company Fonterra, the University of Auckland and University of Queensland to assess nutrition and body composition.

Impedimed said it had provided its bio-impedance spectroscopy (BIS) device for the initiative.

The University of Auckland’s Prof Sally Poppitt said her group was “very pleased” to collaborate with University of Queensland Prof Leigh Ward and Prof Lindsay Plank “both renowned experts in the assessment of body composition”.

Impedimed chief executive officer Richard Carreon said the company was “committed to maximizing the potential of scientific discoveries relevant to the development of new bio-impedance spectroscopy applications” and looked forward to working on the application of the technology to improving lives through better nutrition.

Impedimed was unchanged at 25 cents.

### IM MEDICAL

IM Medical has requested a trading halt pending the release of an announcement “regarding a capital raising and acquisition initiatives”.

Trading will resume on December 19, 2013 or on an earlier announcement.

IM Medical last traded up 0.1 cents or 50 percent to 0.3 cents with 333,000 shares traded, before the trading halt.

### MEDICAL AUSTRALIA

Narelle and Andrew Fay say their substantial holding in Medical Australia has been diluted from 35,234,755 shares (19.38%) to 8,996,946 shares (8.82%).

The substantial shareholder notice said the Neutral Bay, Sydney-based Ms and Mr Fay were diluted by the issue of shares for the Medivet acquisition.

Medical Australia had a 10-for-one share consolidation associated with the acquisition.

The notice said that shares were bought and sold between September 10, 2008 and October 17, 2013 with the single largest trade the acquisition of 12,322,109 shares for \$184,832 or 1.5 cents a share on August 16, 2010.

Medical Australia was unchanged at 25 cents