



# Biotech Daily

Monday April 14, 2014

*Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies*

- \* **ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: ADMEDUS UP 8%, ANTEO DOWN 14%**
- \* **BURNET, GUOMINXINHE \$5m FOR POINT-OF-CARE DIAGNOSTICS**
- \* **VIRALYTICS CAVATAK, DOCETAXEL NSCLC SYNERGY IN-VITRO, IN MICE**
- \* **BIOPROSPECT TO ACQUIRE CARDIAC TEST FOR MENTAL ILLNESS**

## MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 1.28 percent on Monday April 14, 2014 with the S&P ASX 200 down 69.7 points to 5,358.9 points.

Nine of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 19 fell, seven traded unchanged and five were untraded. All three Big Caps fell.

Admedus was the best, up one cent or eight percent to 13.5 cents with 3.8 million shares traded.

Avita, GI Dynamics and Medical Developments climbed more than four percent; Antisense and Reva were up more than three percent; with Ellex, Osprey and Viralytics up more than one percent.

Anteo led the falls, down three cents or 14.3 percent to 18 cents with 14.4 million shares traded, followed by Cellmid down 11.1 percent to 2.4 cents with 4.6 million shares traded and Bionomics down 10.3 percent to 43.5 cents with 394,125 shares traded.

Patrys lost 5.6 percent; Oncosil fell 4.55 percent; Acrux, Mesoblast and Neuren were down more than three percent; Impedimed, Prana, QRX and Sirtex shed more than two percent; Alchemia, Benitec, Clinuvel, CSL, Genetic Technologies, Pharmaxis, Resmed and Starpharma were down more than one percent; with Cochlear and Nanosonics down by less than one percent.

## THE BURNET INSTITUTE

The Burnet Institute says it has a \$5 million agreement with the Beijing-based Guominxinhe Investment Fund to develop low-cost point-of-care diagnostic tests.

The Burnet Institute said that the investment would support Nanjing Biopoint Diagnostics, which it established in 2013 with support from a Chinese Government grant to produce rapid, point-of-care diagnostic test technology for use in China and the rest of the world, initially for liver disease, with the potential to develop further tests.

Burnet director and chief executive officer Prof Brendan Crabb, said the investment in Nanjing Biopoint Diagnostics would use and adapt core technology developed by the Institute in Melbourne, underpinned by support from the Victorian and Federal Governments,

“The establishment of a new biotech company in this way is a very positive outcome for the Burnet Institute and it shows the way for Australia’s internationally competitive medical research sector,” Prof Crabb said.

“Knowledge, in this case scientific knowledge, is one of Australia’s most valuable exports, but it can grow much more, this is an example of one way that can be achieved,” Prof Crabb said.

“The new enterprise will also lead to increased scientific exchange between Burnet Institute researchers and its Chinese counterparts, leading to further enhancement and development of new technologies,” Prof Crabb said.

The Institute said that it expected Nanjing Biopoint Diagnostics to begin research and development operations in its facility in the Jiangsu Life Science Technology and Innovation Park in the next two months.

## VIRALYTICS

Viralytics says that pre-clinical research shows that Cavatak has synergistic activity with chemotherapy drug docetaxel in non-small cell lung cancer in-vitro and in mice.

Viralytics said that the data was presented at the Conference on Oncolytic Virus Therapeutics in Oxford, UK on April 10-13, 2014.

The company said the presentation entitled ‘Synergistic Activity of Coxsackievirus A21 (CVA21) and Docetaxel in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC)’ was co-authored by Viralytics chief science officer Prof Darren Shafren and presented by research team members Yvonne Vern Yee Wong and Min Yuan Quah.

Viralytics said the presentation reported on the synergistic activity between Cavatak and docetaxel in pre-clinical models of lung cancer.

The company said that in-vitro studies showed synergy between Cavatak and docetaxel in multiple lung cancer cell lines.

Viralytics said that in mouse xenograft models the best response was observed in mice receiving the combination of Cavatak and docetaxel.

The company said that it was important that Docetaxel was not detrimental to the effectiveness of Cavatak when the two agents were used in combination.

Viralytics chief executive officer Dr Malcolm McColl said the findings from the study were “further evidence that the oncolytic immunotherapy activity of Cavatak, when administered with docetaxel, may be a promising treatment strategy for lung cancer”.

“This result provides further encouragement for our investigation of Cavatak in the recently initiated [Systemic Treatment Of Resistant Malignancies or Storm] study including patients with lung cancer,” Dr McColl said. “Success in this setting would significantly broaden the commercial application and benefit many more cancer patients.”

Viralytics was up half a cent or 1.6 percent to 31 cents.

## BIOPROSPECT

Bioprospect says it will proceed with the Invatec and Heartlink heart rate variability technology acquisition.

Bioprospect said that the heart rate variability technology analyzed heart rate variability of and was “the world’s first truly objective quantitative test for mental health, including depression”.

The company said it had exercised both options to acquire an initial 35 percent interest in Invatec and to licence the Heartlink technology, which together comprise the technology and would fund the development of the technology.

Bioprospect said that when development was completed to could exercise a further option to fully acquire the entire patent portfolio of Heartlink and to increase its stake in Invatec to 80 percent.

Bioprospect chairman Peter May said the company looked forward to working with Invatec to commercialize “what promises to be the world’s first quantitative, evidence-based tool for diagnosing mental health disorders”.

Bioprospect was up 0.1 cents or 25 percent to 0.5 cents with 7.1 million shares traded.