



# Biotech Daily

Wednesday April 9, 2014

*Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies*

**\* ASX, BIOTECH UP: COMPUMEDICS UP 21%, PRANA DOWN 9%**

**\* COMPUMEDICS, US HEALTH TRUST PURCHASING AGREEMENT**

**\* PHARMAUST LICENCES UNI OF NSW PPL-1 CANCER DRUG PATENT**

## MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market climbed 0.98 percent on Wednesday April 9, 2014 with the S&P ASX 200 up 53.2 points to 5,463.8 points.

Fifteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 12 fell, nine traded unchanged and four were untraded.

Compumedics was the best, up two cents or 21.05 percent to 11.5 cents with 40,000 shares traded.

Oncosil climbed 8.7 percent; Genetic Technologies and QRX were up six percent or more; Atcor and Avita were up more than four percent; Antisense was up 3.2 percent; Acrux, Ellex, Impedimed and Patrys rose more than two percent; Cochlear, Mesoblast, Pharmaxis and Sirtex were up more than one percent; with Benitec and CSL up by less than one percent.

Prana led the falls, down two cents or 8.7 percent to 21 cents with 4.96 million shares traded.

Anteo, Neuren and Optiscan fell four percent or more; Uscom lost 3.45 percent; Alchemia, Clinuvel and Phosphagenics shed more than two percent; Bionomics, Resmed and Universal Biosensors were down more than one percent; with Nanosonics and Starpharma down by less than one percent.

## COMPUMEDICS

Compumedics says it has a three-year agreement with the HealthTrust Purchasing Group to buy its sleep diagnostic and neuro-monitoring systems.

Compumedics said that Brentwood, Tennessee-based HealthTrust will provide its 1,400 hospitals and 10,600 non-acute healthcare facilities across America with access to purchase its equipment.

A Compumedics spokesman told Biotech Daily the contract could be worth about \$4 million a year in revenue.

The company said it was “one of only two vendors that have been given preferred vendor status for sleep diagnostic and neuro-monitoring systems to the HealthTrust Purchasing Group”.

Compumedics executive chairman Dr David Burton said the company was “delighted to announce another substantial contract win”.

“HealthTrust Purchasing Group is one of the major member networks for hospitals in the US market and to sign a three-year agreement with them, giving access to 1,400 hospitals is a significant milestone achievement for our company,” Dr Burton said.

Compumedics was up two cents or 21.05 percent to 11.5 cents.

## PHARMAUST

Pharmaust says it has an exclusive royalty-free worldwide licence from the University of New South Wales’ Newsouth Innovations to a patent relating to its PPL-1 cancer drug.

Pharmaust said it held joint ownership of the patent filing with Newsouth Innovations.

In February, Pharmaust said that its PPL-1 in combination with existing cancer drugs could reduce the chemotherapy dose required by up to 99 percent (BD: Feb 17, 2014).

The company said at that time that with the University of New South Wales it had filed a patent application, based on mouse research at Sydney’s St George Hospital that showed synergies between PPL-1 and some existing cancer therapeutics.

Pharmaust executive chairman Dr Roger Aston told Biotech Daily in February that “depending on the drug, PPL-1 could improve efficacy by up to two orders of magnitude, reducing the amount of chemotherapy needed to one hundredth of the dose and therefore potentially reducing toxicity”.

Today, Pharmaust said it was proceeding to undertake further work on this discovery as part of its development of its key anti-cancer product, PPL-1.

Pharmaust was unchanged at 1.1 cents with 11.2 million shares traded.