

Biotech Daily

Wednesday August 13, 2014

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: OPTISCAN UP 11%, ANALYTICA DOWN 6%
- * CSL RECORD PROFIT UP 8% TO \$1.4bn, REVENUE UP 8% TO \$6bn

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 0.28 percent on Wednesday August 13, 2014 with the S&P ASX 200 down 15.6 points to 5,514.7 points.

Nine of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 15 fell, 10 traded unchanged and six were untraded.

Optiscan was the best, up 0.4 cents or 11.4 percent to 3.9 cents with 45,500 shares traded.

Clinuvel climbed 6.2 percent; Alchemia, Cellmid, Genetic Technologies and GI Dynamics were up more than three percent; CSL and Medical Developments rose more than two percent; with Bionomics and Impedimed up more than one percent.

Analytica led the falls, down 0.2 cents or 5.7 percent to 3.3 cents with 487,000 shares traded.

Oncosil fell 4.35 percent; Anteo, Biotron and Tissue Therapies lost more than three percent; Benitec, Neuren, Prima and Starpharma shed more than two percent; Ellex, Living Cell and Mesoblast were down more than one percent; with Acrux, Cochlear, Psivida, Resmed and Sirtex down by less than one percent.

CSL

CSL says its record net profit after tax was up 7.9 percent to \$US1,307.0 million (\$A1,410.2 million) for the 12 months to June 30, 2014 on record revenue up 7.7 percent to \$US5,524.3 million (\$A5,960.6 million).

CSL chief executive officer Paul Perreault told a teleconference that the total ordinary dividend was up 17 percent to \$1.24 a share with the final dividend up 15.4 percent to 60 US cents a share, for shareholders on the record date of September 10, 2014.

Mr Perreault said that revenue came from its immunoglobulin, albumin and speciality products and the record profit was achieved despite the anticipated costs of the now-settled US anti-trust legal action.

Mr Perreault said that CSL Behring was driving the company's growth, with immunoglobulin products earning \$US2.3 billion and strong sales of the subcutaneous Hizentra immunoglobulin replacement product for primary immunodeficiency disease and Kcentra for urgent warfarin blood-thinning in patients with major bleeding.

He said that sales of albumin for volume replacement in trauma and burns had "particularly strong demand in China where we lead the market".

Mr Perreault said that the company had made major investments in new manufacturing plants opening the Broadmeadows Melbourne plant in May this year, as well as expanding sites in the US, Germany and Switzerland.

He said that CSL Plasma opened 18 new collection centres in the US taking the total to more than 100 centres.

Mr Perreault said he expected net profit after tax to increase by 12 percent in the coming financial year with a 15 percent increase in earnings before interest and taxation. CSL said that its net tangible asset backing per share climbed 6.1 percent from to

\$US4.71 with diluted earnings per share up 11.1 percent to \$US2.691.

The company said that research and development spending was up 9.1 percent to \$US466 million compared to the previous year, and was 8.4 percent of revenue.

CSL had cash and cash equivalents fell 20.1 percent to \$US608.7 million.

Mr Perreault said that the current \$950 million share buy-back was 93 percent completed and the company was considering a further buy-back of the same size.

CSL climbed \$1.69 or 2.6 percent to \$67.24 with 3.5 million shares traded.