

# **Biotech** Daily

# Friday October 3, 2014

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

\* ASX, BIOTECH UP: PATRYS UP 11%, ANALYTICA DOWN 21%

\* WEHI, FRANCE'S SERVIER COLLABORATE ON BLOOD CANCERS

- \* ANALYTICA \$850k PLACEMENT, \$3.17m RIGHTS ISSUE
- \* CORRECTION: PRIMA
- \* VICTORIA SENDS 23 ORGANIZATIONS TO CHICAGO ADVAMED MEETING
- \* UNILIFE AGM FOR 4m CEO ALAN SHORTALL SHARES
- \* SCHRODER, ASSOCIATES REDUCE TO 5% OF COCHLEAR

#### MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market rose 0.39 percent on Friday October 3, 2014 with the S&P ASX 200 up 20.5 points to 5,318.2 points.

Twelve of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, nine fell, 11 traded unchanged and eight were untraded.

Patrys was the best, up 0.2 cents or 11.1 percent to two cents with 500,155 shares traded.

Clinuvel climbed 8.2 percent; Bionomics, GI Dynamics, IDT, Nanosonics and Oncosil were up more than four percent; both Admedus and Anteo were up 3.57 percent to 14.5 cents; Psivida rose 2.1 percent; Atcor was up 1.1 percent; with Resmed and Sirtex up by less than one percent.

Analytica led the falls, down 0.8 cents or 20.5 percent to 3.1 cents with 6.3 million shares traded.

Genetic Technologies lost 11.5 percent; Acrux, Cellmid, Prana and Viralytics were down more than six percent; Avita fell four percent; Impedimed shed 2.15 percent; with Cochlear, CSL and Starpharma down by less than one percent.

# THE WALTER AND ELIZA HALL INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute says it will collaborate with the Paris-based Servier Laboratories to develop new agents to treat cancers including blood cancers. WEHI said that a research team led by its Prof Guillaume Lessene would test how cancer cells responded to treatment with the myeloid cell leukaemia-1 (Mcl-1) inhibitory B-cell lymphoma-2 homology 3 (BH3) mimetics discovered in a collaboration between Servier and the Berkshire England-based Vernalis PLC.

The Institute said that the results would indicate whether this new class of research compounds could be useful in the future for treating people with cancer, and which types of cancer the compounds would be most effective against.

The Institute said that McI-1 was part of a closely related group of proteins known as the B-cell lymphoma-2 (BcI-2) family, which included proteins called BcI-2 and BcI-xL. WEHI said that like McI-1, BcI-2 and BcI-xL were important in extending the lifespan of certain types of cancer cells.

Prof Lessene said that Mcl-1 was a promising therapeutic target for many types of cancer. "There is a considerable body of experimental evidence pinpointing Mcl-1 as the Achilles' heel for many cancers, particularly blood cancers," Prof Lessene said.

"Walter and Eliza Hall Institute researchers made the initial discovery explaining how Bcl-2 played a role in cancer more than 20 years ago," Prof Lessene said.

"Since then the institute has been at the forefront of research revealing how the Bcl-2 family promotes cancer development and treatment resistance," Prof Lessene said. "Our researchers have considerable experience in evaluating and developing potential anti-cancer agents, including BH3-mimetics," Prof Lessene said.

Servier said the discovery of research compounds inhibiting selectively Mcl-1 reflected "a long term commitment to drug discovery research targeting the Bcl-2 family of inhibitors of apoptosis ... [and the collaboration with WEHI would] generate critical data and ideas helping the development of our anti Mcl-1 drug candidates and that our joint research efforts will facilitate bringing a highly innovative treatment to cancer patients".

#### **ANALYTICA**

Analytica says it hopes to raise \$4.01 million in an \$850,000 placement and a further \$3,163,857 in a one-for-eight non-renounceable rights issue at three cents a share. Analytica said that the record date for the rights issue was October 14, with the offer opening on October 17 and closing on October 28, 2014.

The company said the proceeds would be used to fund marketing costs in connection with the launch of the Pericoach intra-vaginal pelvic floor diagnostic and training tool system and general working capital expenses.

Analytica fell 0.8 cents or 20.5 percent to 3.1 cents with 6.3 million shares traded.

#### PRIMA BIOMED

Last night's edition reported that "the Bergen agreement" provided up to \$US\$18 million in cash, the issue of Prima shares totalling about \$US3 million and the issue of 200 million warrants equating to about \$US7 million (BD: Oct 2, 2014).

The sentence should have read that the Prima-Immutep agreement included those allocations from Prima to Immutep, with Bergen separately funding Prima.

The Thursday sub-editor has been admonished and seconded to the succinctly-named 'Legal, Company Directors, External Communications & Ancillary Services Gazette'. Prima was unchanged at 4.1 cents with 6.5 million shares traded.

## VICTORIA GOVERNMENT

The Victoria Government says 23 Victorian organizations will attend the Advanced Medical Technology Association conference in Chicago, Illinois, October 6-8, 2014. A media release from Victoria's Minister for Technology Gordon Rich-Phillips said that the Victorian medical technology mission to the Advanced Medical Technology Association (Advamed) meeting included manufacturers such as Minifab, Optotech and Dorsavi; specialty design and engineering houses Planet Innovation, Invetech and Outerspace Design; research groups Bionic Vision Australia, Monash Vision and the Australian Research Centre Centre of Excellence in Advanced Molecular Imaging; along with Monash and Swinburne Universities.

Mr Rich-Phillips said the Victorian delegation would be led by the Small Technologies Cluster and the Bio-Melbourne Network on behalf of the Victorian Government, supported through Victoria's Technology Plan for the Future.

"Bringing together over 1,000 companies from 31 countries, the Advamed 2014 conference provides the ideal forum for Victorian medical technology companies to showcase ground-breaking [medical technology] products," Mr Rich-Phillips said. Mr Rich-Phillips said that participants will have the opportunity to take part in business development, capital formation, innovative technology showcasing, world-class educational opportunities and networking.

"The Victorian delegation represents our diverse [medical technologies] industry and includes representatives from medical devices, diagnostics development and manufacturing, patient monitoring and tracking technologies and technology commercialization and advisory [companies]," Mr Rich-Phillips said.

Mr Rich-Phillips said that the Victorian medical technology industry led the way in life sciences research, information and communication technology, small technologies and advanced manufacturing.

The media release said that the Advanced Medical Technology Association was an American trade association to advance medical technology and the mission would also visit Minneapolis and Austin, two hubs for medical technology in the US.

## **UNILIFE**

Unilife will vote to grant chief executive officer Alan Shortall up to 4,000,000 shares of restricted stock.

Unilife said the price milestones began with 25 percent of the shares vesting on achieving \$US6.00 a share for 20 of 30 consecutive days increasing to 100 percent should the shares reach \$US12.00 a share, within five years of the September 15, 2014 grant. Last night on the Nasdaq, Unilife fell five cents or 2.35 percent to \$US2.08 with 784,183 shares traded.

The company said that it would ask shareholders to ratify the issue and sale of 7,308,800 shares of common stock, equivalent to 43,852,800 CHESS Depositary Interests (CDIs), under the agreement entered with Cantor Fitzgerald & Co, and approve the issue and transfer of securities under the 2009 Stock Incentive Plan and to approve the 2009 Stock Incentive Plan, as proposed to be amended.

Unilife said that shareholders would be asked to approve the compensation paid to certain executive officers and re-elect six directors Mr Shortall, Slavko James Joseph Bosnjak, John Lund, William Galle, Jeff Carter and Mary Katherine Wold.

The meeting will be held at the Le Parker Meridien Hotel, 119 West 56<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, New York, on November 13, 2014 at 4pm (US EST).

On the ASX, Unilife fell 1.5 cents or 3.6 percent to 40 cents with 1.1 million shares traded.

#### COCHLEAR

Schroder Investment Management has reduced its substantial shareholding in Cochlear from 3,949,650 shares (6.92%) to 2,973,337 shares (5.21%).

Last year, the Pitt Street, Sydney and Gresham Street, London-based Shroder said it acquired shares and the then registered shareholders included BNP Paribas, Citicorp Nominees, HSBC Custody Nominees, JP Morgan Custodial Services, National Nominees, State Street Australia, Brown Brothers Harriman, Sommerzank, JP Morgan Chase Bournemouth and NT London (BD: Sep 20, Oct 24, 2013).

Today, Shroder said that between October 24, 2013 and October 2, 2014, it bought and sold and transferred shares in seven major transactions.

Cochlear fell 61 cents or 0.9 percent to \$68.57 with 161,632 shares traded.