



# Biotech Daily

Wednesday November 26, 2014

*Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies*

- \* **ASX, BIOTECH UP: ACRUX UP 9%, OPTISCAN DOWN 14%**
- \* **LBT PREPARES FOR US FDA PIVOTAL APAS TRIAL**
- \* **NRMA TRIALS BRAIN RESOURCE TECHNOLOGY**
- \* **MESOBLAST AGM FACES 11% DIRECTOR OPTIONS DISSENT**
- \* **UP TO 13% DISSENT TO USCOM CHAIRMAN DR ROB PHILLIPS RIGHTS**
- \* **BAKER BROS TAKES 9% OF CIRCADIAN**
- \* **SAFETY MEDICAL'S 3D MEDICAL APPOINTS MAX GHOBRIAL CEO**
- \* **TONY HARTNELL REPLACES ADVANCED SURGICAL'S JOHN O'MEARA**

## MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market climbed 1.15 percent on Wednesday November 26, 2014 with the S&P ASX 200 up 61.4 points to 5,396.2 points.

Sixteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, seven fell, 13 traded unchanged and four were untraded. All three Big Caps were up.

Acrux was the best, following yesterday's EMA news on testosterone and cardiac safety, up 10.5 cents or 8.6 percent to \$1.325 with 1.8 million shares traded.

Psivida climbed 7.5 percent; Biotron, Living Cell, Prana and Uscom were up more than five percent; Anteo, Benitec and Neuren were up more than four percent; Ellex and Mesoblast were up more than three percent; Bionomics, Impedimed and Prima rose more than two percent; with Alchemia, Cochlear, CSL, Resmed and Sirtex up by more than one percent.

Optiscan led the falls for the second trading day in a row, down 0.9 cents or 13.6 percent to 5.7 cents with 9.3 million shares traded.

Cellmid fell 6.9 percent; Oncosil was down 3.2 percent; Antisense and Avita shed more than two percent; with Clinuvel and Phosphagenics down more than one percent.

## LBT INNOVATIONS

LBT says that completing two trials of its automated plate assessment system has prepared the way for pivotal trial talks with the US Food and Drug Administration. LBT said that the trials at Healthscope Pathology laboratories in Melbourne and Adelaide tested the efficacy of the automated plate assessment system (APAS) technology in detecting and reporting the presence of disease-causing pathogens in urine samples from 4,300 patients.

The company said that a full report of the findings would be submitted to the FDA prior to beginning a US trial early in 2015.

LBT said it was in consultation with the FDA to confirm that its trial protocols met the guidelines required for a 510(k) de novo submission, required before the APAS could be distributed commercially in the US.

LBT chief executive officer Lusia Guthrie told Biotech Daily that the APAS technology was compared with human plate readers and the US trial was expected to require the same number of samples as the Australian trials.

LBT was up one cent or eight percent to 13.5 cents.

## BRAIN RESOURCE

Brain Resource says the New South Wales National Roads and Motorists' Association will run a three month trial of Mybrainsolutions in 2015.

Brain Resource said that NRMA members would access the "brain health"

Mybrainsolutions tests through the NRMA 'Living Well Navigator' portal of its website.

The company said that the NRMA Living Well Navigator was a resource for people who share common attitudes and interests to help members make more informed decisions and live independently for longer as they grew older and Mybrainsolutions would be used to "promote brain health, a critical component of overall health".

Brain Resource said the diagnostic comprised an assessment to identify individual strengths and limitations, exercises to train the brain and monitor progress.

The company said that following the successful completion of the trial the NRMA would offer a paid program to its members.

An NRMA spokesman told Biotech Daily the organization began as a roadside emergency service like the Royal Auto Clubs and offered a range of services to its members.

Brain Resource was untraded at 23 cents.

## MESOBLAST

All resolutions at the Mesoblast annual general meeting were passed, but with up to 10.6 percent opposition to the issue of 80,000 options each to three directors.

Mesoblast said more than 19.0 million votes (10.6%) opposed the option issue to William Burns, Dr Eric Rose and Dr Ben-Zion Weiner, with 159.9 million votes (89.4%) in favor.

Mesoblast's notice of meeting said that the options had the approximate value of the directors' fees of \$128,250 each and the exercise price would be the five-day volume weighted average price to the date of the meeting.

1.7 million votes opposed the remuneration report with 177.4 million votes in favor, while directors Mr Burns, Donal O'Dwyer and Dr Weiner were re-elected overwhelmingly.

The company's most recent Appendix 3B said that Mesoblast had 321,696,029 shares on issue meaning that the largest opposition vote, amounted to 5.9 percent of the company's total shares on issue, sufficient to requisition extraordinary general meetings.

Mesoblast was up 16 cents or 3.9 percent to \$4.26 with 401,375 shares traded.

## USCOM

Uscom's annual general meeting passed all resolutions but with 13.4 percent opposition to the issue of 5,409,902 'indeterminate rights' to executive chairman Dr Robert Phillips.

In October, Uscom said the rights would be issued at no cost and converted to shares at no cost, pending specified revenue increases (BD: Oct 27, 2014).

Today, Uscom said the issue was opposed by 3,898,539 votes (13.37%) and supported by 25,251,214 votes (86.63%).

The company said that the Uscom equity incentive plan was opposed by a similar number of votes and percentage, the additional share issue capacity was opposed by a similar number of votes but with more than 43.1 million votes in favor (91.8%) and the re-election of director Sheena Jack and ratification of a prior placement were passed overwhelmingly. The company's most recent Appendix 3B said that Uscom had 81,709,490 shares on issue meaning that the opposition to Dr Phillips indeterminate rights amounted to 4.77 percent of shares on issue, not sufficient to requisition extraordinary general meetings. Uscom was up one cent or 5.6 percent to 19 cents.

## CIRCADIAN TECHNOLOGIES

The New York-based Baker Brothers say they have become substantial shareholders in Circadian with 13,537,768 shares (9.14%).

The substantial shareholder notice said the shares were held by Julian Baker and Felix Baker, with 11,428,571 shares acquired at 17.5 cents each.

Circadian recently raised \$17.4 million at 17.5 cents (BD: Oct 6, Nov 6, 2014).

Circadian was unchanged at 16 cents.

## SAFETY MEDICAL PRODUCTS

Safety Medical says that 3D Medical has appointed former Siemens executive Max Ghobrial as its chief executive officer.

Yesterday, Safety Medical announced the back-door listing of 3D Medical to develop its sales and marketing business of three-dimensional anatomical models.

3D chairman Matthew Morgan told Biotech Daily the company expected to complete the capital raising and change of name to 3D Medical on January 12, 2015, when he would become the chairman of the listed company and Mr Ghobrial its chief executive officer.

Safety Medical said Mr Ghobrial worked for Siemens for eight years with responsibility for Australian health care institutions and previously was with Tyco Healthcare and Singtel.

Safety Medical said that Mr Ghobrial held a Bachelor of Science from La Trobe University. Safety Medical was up 0.1 cents or 25 percent to 0.5 cents.

## ADVANCED SURGICAL DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE

Advanced Surgical says it has appointed Tony Hartnell as a director replacing John O'Meara from the conclusion of its annual general meeting today.

Advanced Surgical said that Mr Hartnell was the founding partner of law firm Atanaskovic Hartnell and the inaugural chairman of the Australian Securities Commission.

Advanced Surgical was unchanged at 5.5 cents.