



Biotech Daily

Friday February 13, 2015

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX, BIOTECH UP: GENETIC TECHNOLOGIES UP 25%, PRANA DOWN 15%**
- * **FDA LIMITS PRANA PBT2 HUNTINGTON'S DOSE**
- * **BRAIN WINS UP TO \$1.9m BOEING CONTRACT**
- * **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM EUREKA PRIZES OPEN**
- * **COMPUMEDICS PLEADS SCHULTZ TO ASX 30% QUERY**
- * **UNITED SUPER, CBUS BELOW 5% OF ACRUX**
- * **CRAIG CHAPMAN, NAMPAC INCREASE, DILUTED TO 18.35% OF AGENIX**
- * **POLYNOVO CEO PAUL BRENNAN STARTS ON \$270k, IVY CHENG**
- * **AUSBIOTECH BIO-BEERS & BUBBLES ACROSS AUSTRALIA**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market climbed 2.33 percent on Friday February 13, 2015 with the S&P ASX 200 up 133.9 points to 5,877.5 points. Eighteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 12 fell, eight traded unchanged and two were untraded.

Genetic Technologies was the best, up one cent or 25 percent to five cents with 60.7 million shares traded, followed by Optiscan up 17.7 percent to 9.3 cents with 13.1 million shares traded and Oncosil up 12.35 percent to 9.1 cents with 740,000 shares traded.

Circadian climbed 9.1 percent; Biotron rose 8.3 percent; both Analytica and Phosphagenics were up 4.2 percent; Acrux, Living Cell and Neuren were up three percent or more; Anteo, Bionomics, Clinuvel, Nanosonics and Universal Biosensors rose more than two percent; Avita, CSL, Medical Developments and Viralytics were up more than one percent; with Cochlear up by 0.3 percent.

Prana led the falls, down three cents or 14.6 percent to 17.5 cents with two million shares traded, followed by Compumedics down 13.3 percent to 13 cents with 342,454 shares traded.

GI Dynamics lost six percent; Mesoblast fell 5.7 percent; Alchemia was down 4.35 percent; Benitec, Cellmid, Pharmaxis and Starpharma were down more than three percent; Antisense shed two percent; Impedimed lost 1.65 percent; with Sirtex down 0.5 percent.

PRANA BIOTECHNOLOGY

Prana says the US Food and Drug Administration has issued a partial clinical hold limiting the dose of PBT2 that can be given to patients with Huntington disease.

Prana said the partial clinical hold was based on pre-clinical, animal, findings following the company's end of phase II trial discussions trial and subsequent correspondence.

The company said it had presented its plans and information package to begin a phase III Huntington's trial and, under its open investigational new drug application, it was able to continue trials but at a dose that it did not consider to be clinically relevant.

Prana said that the FDA had provided options to remove the partial clinical hold and to move to clinical trials of PBT2 at a clinically relevant dose and, it would conduct additional animal neurotoxicity studies or identify a strategy for safely using a clinically relevant dosage in humans in the planned phase III trial in Huntington disease.

The company said that the FDA had not raised any concerns about PBT2 safety data in human trials conducted to date and regulatory discussions were continuing.

Prana fell three cents or 14.6 percent to 17.5 cents with two million shares traded.

BRAIN RESOURCE

Brain Resource says it has been contracted to supply the Boeing Company with its Mybrainsolutions mental health diagnostics.

Brain said that the contract included a three month pilot to select employees, with the rollout to all employees and dependents worldwide scheduled to begin in October 2015.

The company said that the Boeing contract was the largest Mybrainsolutions contract signed since inception and has the potential to be worth more than \$US500,000 (\$A642,207) a year for its three year term.

Brain was up one cent or 4.2 percent to 25 cents.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The Federal Parliamentary Secretary for Industry and Science Karen Andrews has called for nominees and nominations for the Australian Museum 2015 Eureka prizes.

"The Eureka prizes recognize effective scientific and technological solutions for real-world problems or challenges and I am proud that we can support this through the Industry and Science portfolio by sponsoring four of the 16 prizes," Ms Andrews said.

The Australian Museum said the prizes were awarded in the four categories of research and innovation, leadership, science communication and journalism and school science.

A Federal Government media release said that the Department of Industry and Science, through the Inspiring Australia Strategy, sponsored the \$10,000 Australian Government Eureka prize for science journalism, awarded to an Australian journalist, or journalists, who effectively communicated scientific or technological issues to the public.

The media release said that the Department also sponsored the \$10,000 Australian Government Eureka prize for promoting understanding of Australian science research, for scientists who encourage community appreciation of the contribution Australian science makes to our everyday lives.

The Government said that the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation and the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation sponsored the \$10,000 leadership in science prize and the \$10,000 innovative use of technology prize respectively.

Entries close on May 1, 2015.

For more information and to nominate go to: www.australianmuseum.net.au/eureka.

COMPUMEDICS

Compumedics has told the ASX that it is not aware of any information it has not announced which, if known, could explain recent trading in its securities.

The ASX said the company's share price rose 30.4 percent from 11.5 cents on February 10 to 15.0 cents on February 12, 2015, but did not note an increase in trading volume.

Compumedics fell two cents or 13.3 percent to 13 cents.

ACRUX

United Super, as trustee for Cbus Superannuation, says it has ceased its substantial shareholder in Acrux, falling below the five percent threshold.

Last year, United Super became substantial in Acrux with 8,389,935 shares or 5.04 percent acquiring 1,924,830 shares between December 31, 2013 and May 7, 2014 in a large number of trades, with the then most recent trade 96,472 shares for \$97,467 or \$1.01 a share (BD: May 9, 2014).

Today, United Super said it had sold 84,500 shares for \$120,987 or \$1.43 a share.

The company's 2014 annual report said that Acrux had 166,521,711 shares on issue, meaning that United Super holds 4.99 percent of the company.

Cbus is one of the original compulsory industry superannuation funds and is chaired by former Victoria Premier Steve Bracks.

Acrux was up four cents or three percent to \$1.38 cents.

AGENIX

Agenix director Craig Graeme Chapman has increased his holding from 20,836,614 shares to 24,911,464 but has been diluted from 18.53 percent to 18.35 percent.

The substantial shareholder notice said that the Kenmore, Queensland-based Mr Chapman held the shares as trustee for Nampac Discretionary Account and acquired 3,172,413 shares for \$46,000 or 1.45 cents each "pursuant to resolutions approved at meeting of shareholders on November 12, 2014".

The meeting agreed to pay Mr Chapman his directors fees in shares in lieu of cash.

Agenix fell 0.1 cents or 6.25 percent to 1.5 cents.

POLYNOVO (FORMERLY CALZADA)

Polynovo says that chief executive officer Paul Brennan began work today on a base salary of \$270,000 with Ivy Cheng appointed regulatory and clinical compliance manager. Polynovo said that Mr Brennan had worked in health sciences for more than 20 years in roles with major market leading global healthcare companies.

The company said that Mr Brennan held a Masters of Business Administration from Swinburne University.

Polynovo said that Ms Cheng would begin work in mid-March 2015 and had been appointed as the company prepared for regulatory trials to register products, especially in the area of wound and burns.

The company said that Philip Powell and David McQuillan would revert to independent non-executive directors.

Polynovo was unchanged at 8.8 cents.

AUSBIOTECH

Ausbiotech says it will hold Bio-Beers & Bubbles networking events across the continent, from next week.

Ausbiotech said that Bio-Beers & Bubbles brought together the life sciences sector, including therapeutics, medical technology, devices and diagnostics, food and agriculture biotechnology sectors for a night of networking in an informal setting.

The industry organization said that the events were free for members and non-members with nibbles provided, with all four events to be held from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

In Victoria, Bio-Beers & Bubbles will be held on Thursday February 19, 2015, upstairs at the Imperial, 522 Chapel Street, South Yarra, with drinks at bar prices.

The Queensland, Bio-Beers & Bubbles will also be held on Thursday February 19, at Hillstone St Lucia, '00 Acre Bar, Carawa Street, Carawa, Brisbane, with drinks provided for Ausbiotech members and at bar prices for non-members.

In South Australia, Bio-Beers & Bubbles will be held on Tuesday February 17, at Regattas Bistro & Bar, Riverbank promenade, Adelaide, with drinks at bar prices.

The Western Australia Bio-Beers & Bubbles will be held on Tuesday February 24, 2015 at Wrays offices, 56 Ord Street, West Perth with drinks provided, but registration required for catering purposes and limited space.

To register go to: www.ausbiotech.org or for more information contact Jess Italiano at: jitaliano@ausbiotech.org or telephone +613 9828 1456.