



Biotech Daily

Thursday February 5, 2015

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX, BIOTECH UP: GENETIC TECHNOLOGIES UP 21%
- COMPUMEDICS DOWN 9%**
- * **ELLEX 2RT LASER FOR AMD EARNS US JOURNAL COVER**
- * **UNILIFE RAISES \$57m IN THE US**
- * **SIMAVITA RECEIVES \$1.4m FEDERAL R&D TAX REFUND**
- * **GENETIC TECHNOLOGIES FUNDING EGM**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.58 percent on Thursday February 5, 2015 with the S&P ASX 200 up 33.7 points to 5,811.0 points.

Twenty of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 12 fell, seven traded unchanged and one was untraded. All three Big Caps were up.

Genetic Technologies was the best, up half a cent or 20.8 percent to 2.9 cents with 39.0 million shares traded, followed by Antisense up 10 percent to 11 cents with 94,100 shares traded.

Medical Developments climbed nine percent; Biotron was up 8.7 percent; Ellex and Patrys were up more than six percent; Mesoblast was up 4.5 percent; Tissue Therapies was up 3.9 percent; Neuren, Prima and Starpharma rose more than two percent; Alchemia, Impedimed, Living Cell, Nanosonics, Optiscan and Sirtex were up more than one percent; with Benitec, Clinuvel, Cochlear, CSL, Psivida and Resmed up by less than one percent.

Compumedics led the falls, down one cent or 8.7 percent to 10.5 cents with 69,000 shares traded.

Analytica lost 7.7 percent; Admedus, Atcor, GI Dynamics and Prana fell more than four percent; Avita was down 3.5 percent; Acrux, Bionomics, Circadian and Pharmaxis shed two percent or more; with Viralytics down 1.64 percent.

ELLEX MEDICAL LASERS

Ellex says its 2RT laser technology for age-related macular degeneration has featured on the cover of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology journal. Ellex said that the data, first published on-line last November, supported the therapeutic and safety profile of its retinal rejuvenation (2RT) technology (BD: Nov 18, 2014). Ellex chief executive officer Tom Spurling said that the selection of the article for the cover story of the journal was "a significant milestone for the 2RT project ... [and] highlights the significance of this data".

Mr Spurling said that 2RT was "breaking new ground" in the management of age-related macular oedema patients.

"We are confident that the FASEB publication will bring greater awareness to the 2RT project and support continued sales of 2RT units," Mr Spurling said.

The company said that the research paper, entitled 'Nanosecond laser therapy reverses pathological and molecular changes in age-related macular degeneration without retinal damage', was published in Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology and an abstract is at: <http://www.fasebj.org/content/early/2014/11/12/fj.14-262444.abstract>.

Ellex said in November 2014 that the 24-month clinical data, conducted by the Melbourne-based Centre for Eye Research Australia's Prof Robyn Guymer, demonstrated the potential of 2RT to reverse the accumulation of drusen in patients with high-risk early age-related macular degeneration.

The company said that presence of drusen, small fatty deposits in the eye, was a key risk factor for age-related macular degeneration progression.

Ellex said that 51 patients with intermediate age-related macular degeneration underwent treatment with 2RT in one eye, with the drusen area in each eye graded at baseline, and post-treatment at 12 months and 24 months respectively.

The company said that drusen changes in the treated eye were evaluated against a natural history age-related macular degeneration cohort of similar age range and clinical severity.

Ellex said that 2RT reduced drusen area in 35 to 40 percent of treated eyes at 24 months, compared to five to 11 percent of eyes in the natural history cohort.

Mr Spurling said at that time that no patients in the 24-month pilot study progressed to wet age-related macular degeneration.

Ellex was up two cents or 6.25 percent to 34 cents.

UNILIFE CORP

Unilife says it has raised \$US44.7 million (\$A57.4 million) in its US underwritten placement at \$US3.75 per US share.

Each Unilife US share is equivalent to six Australian shares.

Unilife said the underwriters exercised their option to buy an additional 1,650,000 shares of common stock and the company had issued a total of 12,650,000 US shares.

Unilife fell three cents or 3.55 percent to 81.5 cents.

SIMAVITA

Simavita says it has received \$1,370,468 from the Australian Tax Office under the Federal Government Research and Development Tax Incentive program.

Simavita said the rebate related to research and development expenditure for the year to June 30, 2014

Simavita was up two cents or 4.4 percent to 47 cents.

GENETIC TECHNOLOGIES

Genetic Technologies shareholders will vote on a new placement, the issue of 160,000,000 for the Kentgrove standby equity facility and 10,583,420 shares to Ironridge. In 2013, Genetic Technologies signed a \$5 million convertible notes deal with Ironridge, drawing down the final note last November (BD: Sep 10, 2013; Nov 27, 2014). Last month, the company announced it has an up to \$24 million standby equity placement facility with the Melbourne-based Kentgrove Capital Growth Fund (BD: Jan 22, 2015). The extraordinary general meeting will be held at the company's offices, 60-66 Hanover Street, Fitzroy on March 6, 2015 at 10am (AEDT). Genetic Technologies was up half a cent or 20.8 percent to 2.9 cents with 39.0 million shares traded.