



# Biotech Daily

Thursday March 26, 2015

*Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies*

- \* **ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: LIVING CELL UP 9%, TISSUE THERA DOWN 35%**
- \* **EUROPE CALLS FOR MORE TISSUE THERAPIES VITROGRO DATA**
- \* **LBT GRANTED FIRST US PATENT FOR APAS PLATE ANALYSIS**
- \* **INVION AND PATRYS AND COMMSEC IRESS DATA**
- \* **GOLDMAN SACHS BELOW 5% OF NANOSONICS**
- \* **NAB BELOW 5% IN SIRTEX**
- \* **ACADEMY OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SCIENCES LAUNCHED**
- \* **SUDA REQUESTS CAPITAL RAISING TRADING HALT**
- \* **REVA APPOINTS SCOTT HUENNEKENS DIRECTOR**

## MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 1.58 percent on Thursday March 26, 2015 with the S&P ASX 200 down 94.2 points to 5,879.1 points.

Just five of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 23 fell, seven traded unchanged and five were untraded. All three Big Caps fell.

Living Cell was the best, up 0.5 cents or 9.1 percent to six cents with 229,527 shares traded. Antisense climbed 6.9 percent; Analytica rose 4.35 four percent; with Acrux and Impedimed up by less than one percent.

Tissue Therapies led the falls for the second day in a row, down 6.5 cents or 35.1 percent to 12 cents with 6.9 million shares traded.

Phosphagenics fell 8.2 percent; Ellex and Mesoblast lost more than seven percent; Osprey, Psivida and Sirtex were down more than six percent; Universal Biosensors lost 5.4 percent; Bionomics, Clinuvel and Neuren fell more than four percent; Alchemia, Benitec, Biotron, GI Dynamics and Prima were down more than three percent; Anteo, Atcor, Cochlear and Oncosil shed more than two percent; with Admedus, CSL, Medical Developments, Nanosonics, Resmed and Starpharma down more than one percent.

## TISSUE THERAPIES

Tissue Therapies says that European approval of its Vitrogro wound treatment has been further delayed to beyond May 2015 with authorities wanting more information.

Tissue Therapies chief executive officer Dr Steven Mercer told Biotech Daily that during a formal oral hearing in London on March 25, 2015, the Committee for Medical Products for Human Use said it wanted additional data regarding one of the components of Vitrogro ECM, namely the insulin-like growth factor-1.

Dr Mercer said that the Committee would provide guidelines on the information required and in a meeting planned for May 2015 would agree the additional data requirements with the company.

Dr Mercer said the company was pleased that European Medicines Agency and the notified body, the British Standards Institute, were assisting it.

In a media release to the ASX, Tissue Therapies said that the Committee did not express concerns about the performance of Vitrogro ECM and the company would attend an EMA scientific advisory working party meeting in May 2015 to agree on the studies to satisfy the request for additional data.

Tissue Therapies said that in consultation with the BSI it had withdrawn its application for a scientific opinion in respect of Vitrogro ECM, but not the Conformité Européenne (CE) mark application.

The company said it would provide an update "once it has a clearer understanding of the studies needed to provide the additional data to the notified body and [the Committee] and the expected timing".

Dr Mercer said that the decision to withdraw the request for a scientific opinion "does not impact Tissue Therapies ongoing plans to obtain approval for Vitrogro ECM in the USA". "The procedure for US FDA approval for the use of Vitrogro ECM is different from that for CE mark," Dr Mercer said.

Tissue Therapies fell 6.5 cents or 35.1 percent to 12 cents with 6.9 million shares traded.

## LBT INNOVATIONS

LBT says the US Patent and Trademark Office has granted its first US patent for its automated plate assessment system (APAS) culture-plate analysis technology.

LBT said that the patent, entitled 'Colour calibration method for an image capture device' related to a novel method for color calibrating images captured by the APAS technology, which would make it easier for devices using APAS to accurately classify the colour of both bacterial colonies and culture mediums such as agar plates.

The company said that the patent provided coverage until November 25, 2034, and was the first in a family of five patents being considered by the USPTO.

LBT chief executive officer Lusie Guthrie said the patent was "a key milestone in the journey we have recently begun to launch APAS in the United States, which represents a critical testing ground for new medical devices as well as the world's largest commercial medical market".

The company said it was preparing to begin a clinical trial of the APAS technology at Tricore Reference Laboratories in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as part of its application for registration by the US Food and Drug Administration.

LBT said the trial would be the third and final trial of the clinical efficacy of APAS, following successful trials in Melbourne and Adelaide late last year (BD: Jul 7, Nov 26, 2014).

LBT was up 0.8 cents or 11.8 percent to 7.6 cents.

### INVION, PATRYS, COMMSEC IRESS

Biotech Daily relies on data provided by the Commsec Iress platform to report share price movements and complete the daily market report.

On Monday March 23, Iress had Invion in red rather than green, indicating the price fell 1.6 cents or 55.2 percent to 4.5 cents, when in fact it climbed by that amount.

On Tuesday March 24, Iress quoted an Invion ex-entitlement value of 4.0554 cents instead of the actual previous closing price of 4.5 cents and calculated the change to 3.5 cents on the former value, while the Commsec main website quoted the correct data.

On March 23, Iress reported Patrys falling 0.2 cents to 0.9 cents, when in fact there was no change in the price at 1.0 cents, and on March 24 said that Patrys fell 0.1 cents to 1.0 cents, which, of course, makes no sense.

The main Commsec website appears not to have made these errors.

Biotech Daily is grateful to Commsec for the provision of the sophisticated Iress platform and its data and accepts that these errors are most unusual.

No one from Iress was available to comment.

We have offered to re-instate the recently dismissed Monday sub-editor and second him to Iress.

### NANOSONICS

The Delaware-based Goldman Sachs Group says it has ceased its substantial shareholding in Nanosonics.

Goldman Sachs said that between March 18 and March 23, 2015 it received shares under a counterparty agreement, returned shares, lent and borrowed shares, with the sole paid transaction the sale of 313,483 shares for \$575,241 or \$1.835 a share.

Last week, Goldman Sachs became a substantial shareholder in Nanosonics with 14,925,513 shares or 5.34 percent of the company (BD: Mar 20, 2015).

The substantial shareholder notice said the shares were held by subsidiaries, Rothesay Life, JP Morgan Chase, RBC Dexia Australian, HSBC Custody Nominees Australia and the Bank of New York Mellon, with some of the holdings relating to Goldman Sachs and JP Morgan Chase subject to an "overseas securities lender's agreement", as well as Rothesay Life and Morgan Stanley as parties to a "global master securities lending agreement".

Nanosonics fell two cents or 1.0 percent to \$1.95.

### SIRTEX MEDICAL

The National Australia Bank says it has ceased its substantial shareholding in Sirtex.

Last week, the National Australia Bank became substantial in Sirtex with 2,922,193 shares or 5.169 percent (BD: Mar 20, 2015) having bought, borrowed and returned shares for a large range of holders including MLC Investments, Antares Capital Partners, Navigator Australia and BNP Paribas Nominees and under securities borrowing agreements with clients Unisuper and Vicsuper with counterparties UBS Securities, Macquarie Bank, Merrill Lynch Equiteis and Instinet Australia.

Today, the National Australia Bank said that between March 18 and March 23, 2015 it bought, sold, returned and loaned shares.

Sirtex fell \$1.48 or 6.9 percent to \$20.02 with 1.1 million shares traded.

### ACADEMY OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SCIENCES, FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences was launched in Canberra last night by Federal Minister for Health Sussan Ley to promote health and medical research. A media release from the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute said that director Prof Doug Hilton was one of the 116 inaugural fellows of the Academy, which was formed to address challenges for translating Australian research into better health outcomes, identified in the 2012 McKeon Review of Health and Medical Research.

"The McKeon Review identified the need for Australia to better connect health and medical research with the delivery of healthcare services," Prof Hilton said.

"The academy promises to be a valuable addition to Australia's health and medical research sector, both for its role in supporting the involvement of clinicians in translational research as well as fostering evidence-based health policy development and discussions. Academy patron, Prof Gustav Nossal, a former director of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, said the academy would provide a national and international forum for debate and discussion amongst thinkers and researchers.

"Australia has a notable record of achievement in health and medical research, and our current expertise is reflected in the initial fellowship of the academy," Prof Nossal said.

"The academy fellows form an expert resource which will provide great value to the Australian community and to the world, now and into the future," Prof Nossal said.

### SUDA

Suda has requested a trading halt "pending an announcement by the company in relation to a proposed equity capital raising".

Trading will resume on March 30, 2015 or on an earlier announcement.

Suda last traded at 4.1 cents.

### REVA MEDICAL

Reva says that it has appointed medical device executive Scott Huennekens as a non-executive director.

Reva said that Mr Huennekens was most recently the president and chief executive officer of Volcano Corp which provided intravascular imaging for coronary and peripheral applications, leading the company from a start-up, through a \$US54 million initial public offer in 2006, to its acquisition by Royal Phillips for \$1.2 billion earlier this year.

The company said that previously, Mr Huennekens was the president and chief executive officer of Digirad Corp, a provider of diagnostic imaging products and prior to Digirad was with Baxter International.

Reva said that Mr Huennekens currently was a director of Endochoice, Sonendo, Scripps Translational Science Institute and the Medical Device Manufacturers Association.

The company said that Mr Huennekens held a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Southern California and a Masters of Business Administration from Harvard Business School.

Reva was unchanged at 55 cents.