

# **Biotech** Daily

# Thursday April 16, 2015

### Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- \* ASX UP, BIOTECH DOWN: ACTINOGEN, ANALYTICA UP 10%, PATRYS DOWN 7%
- \* CLARITY LICENCES BAKER IDI PLAQUE DETECTION TECHNOLOGY
- \* IMPEDIMED Q3 LYMPHOEDEMA TEST REVENUE UP 104% TO \$700k
- \* ACTINOGEN READY FOR FINAL XANAMEM DOSE-ESCALATION COHORT
- \* ANALYTICA BEGINS 100-PATIENT PERICOACH INCONTINENCE TRIAL
- \* EURO PATENT FOR ANTISENSE ATL1103 FOR IGF-1 REDUCTION
- \* AVITA SHARE PLAN RAISES \$1m OF HOPED-FOR \$6m
- \* MLADEN MARUSIC BELOW 5% OF PATRYS
- \* GI DYNAMICS COMPLETES US 10-FOR-1 CONSOLIDATION
- \* BUCHAN'S APRIL THREE TICKERS ON NEUROSCIENCE
- \* TWO WEEKS TO AUSBIOTECH MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES CONFERENCE

#### MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market climbed 0.66 percent on Thursday April 16, 2015 with the S&P ASX 200 up 39.1 points to 5,947.5 points. Thirteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 17 fell, nine traded unchanged and one was untraded.

Actinogen and Analytica were both up 10 percent, to 11 cents with 4.1 million shares traded and 2.2 cents with 551,810 shares traded, respectively.

GI Dynamics climbed 8.7 percent; Pharmaxis was up 6.7 percent; Impedimed rose five percent; Antisense and Starpharma were up more than four percent; IDT and Mesoblast were up three percent or more; Medical Developments rose 2.6 percent; Living Cell and Reva were up more than one percent; with Cochlear and Sirtex up less than one percent.

Patrys led the falls, down 0.1 cents or 7.1 percent to 1.3 cents with 2.3 million shares traded. Genetic Technologies, Optiscan, Uscom and Viralytics lost five percent or more; Admedus, Atcor, Neuren and Prima fell four percent or more; Cellmid was down 3.85 percent; Compumedics shed 2.2 percent; Acrux, Benitec, Bionomics, Clinuvel, Nanosonics, Resmed and Universal Biosensors were down more than one percent; with CSL down 0.6 percent.

# **CLARITY PHARMACEUTICALS**

Clarity says it has licenced technology from Melbourne's Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute to develop a diagnostic for the detection of rupture-prone plaque in arteries. Clarity executive chairman Dr Alan Taylor told Biotech Daily that the injected peptidebased technology targeted activated platelets.

"Activated platelets play a role in vulnerable plaque but there is also evidence of activated platelet involvement in cancer and other inflammatory disorders such as rheumatoid arthritis," Dr Taylor said.

"We are excited because the technology is applicable to multiple opportunities and we are able to translate some world-leading Australian science from Baker IDI," Dr Taylor said. Clarity said that the importance of detecting unstable, rupture-prone plaque, especially to prevent recurrent cardiac events could not be overstated and had "the possibility of saving millions of lives".

The company said that there were forecasts that atherosclerosis and vulnerable plaque would be the major applications and market drivers of the positron emission tomography cardiology nuclear medicine market.

Clarity said that every year, more than 19 million people worldwide and more than one million people in the US experience a sudden cardiac event, resulting in more than 450,000 deaths annually in the US alone.

The company said that a large portion of that population had no prior symptoms. Clarity said that the vast majority of myocardial infractions were caused by acute rupture of vulnerable plaques, resulting in the formation of clots in the coronary arteries, subsequent vessel occlusion and ultimately loss in cardiac function and often sudden cardiac death.

The company said that with the technology, developed by Prof Karlheinz Peter and his team from Baker IDI's athero-thrombosis and vascular laboratory, it was among the pioneers in this field and was "eager to build its capability and advance the product through clinical trials".

Clarity is a private company.

#### IMPEDIMED

Impedimed says that lymphoedema test revenue for the three months to March 31, 2015 was \$700,000, a 104.1 percent increase over the previous corresponding period. The March quarter revenue for lymphoedema tests was 75 percent above the \$400,000, in revenue for the three months to December 31, 2014.

Last November, Impedimed announced that it had secured an American Medical Association common procedural terminology category 1 code and reimbursement of \$US112.67 per test, effective from January 1, 2015 (BD: Nov 3, 2014).

In its Appendix 4C Quarterly Report posted to the ASX posted, Impedimed said that total revenue for the three months to March 31, 2015 was \$1.5 million up 25 percent from 1.2 million for the three months to December 31, 2014 and 69.1 percent above the three months to March 31, 2014.

Impedimed chief executive officer Richard Carreon told Biotech Daily that the remaining revenue was from the company's body composition and test and measurement businesses.

Impedimed climbed four cents or five percent to 84 cents.

# ACTINOGEN MEDICAL

Actinogen says it has completed dosing its second cohort in its 24-patient phase I dose escalation trial of Xanamem for Alzheimer's disease and will begin dosing the third cohort. Actinogen said that eight subjects had been dosed at 20mg and the independent dose escalation committee had approved a dose of 35mg for the final cohort of eight subjects, which was expected to be dosed in late April.

The company said that the primary endpoint of the study was to confirm safety and tolerability of the drug and demonstrate how the body absorbed and metabolized Xanamem and the optimal dose for the drug and the next stage would be a fed-fasted study of 12 participants, expected to begin on May 19, 2015.

Actinogen was up one cent or 10 percent to 11 cents with 4.1 million shares traded.

## **ANALYTICA**

Analytica says it will begin recruitment for a 20-week, 100-patient, prospective, multicentre trial of its intra-vaginal Pericoach system for pelvic floor muscle exercise. Analytica said that the trial was not required for registration or sales clearance and the Pericoach system had been registered as a medical device with the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration, had Conformité Européenne (CE) mark approval and US Food and Drug Administration clearance.

The company said that the trial would provide a foundation for market differentiation, clinician confidence and medical bono fides, as well as Pericoach-specific efficacy information for reimbursement studies.

Analytica said that the Pericoach system provided real-time biofeedback to enhance the performance and effectiveness of pelvic floor muscle exercise, in particular for urinary incontinence.

The company said the Pericoach trial would investigate urinary incontinence and had a secondary endpoint investigating quality of life improvements, including sexual function. Analytica said that it expected to launch the Pericoach in the US by June 2015. Analytica chief executive officer Geoff Daly said that "effective pelvic floor muscle

exercises are a critical component of any comprehensive treatment program for urinary incontinence".

"Our goal with this trial is to partner with clinical centres and the professional community to understand how Pericoach help improve the compliance and effectiveness of these proven exercises," Mr Daly said.

Analytica was up 0.2 cents or 10 percent to 2.2 cents.

#### ANTISENSE THERAPEUTICS

Antisense says the European Patent Office has allowed a patent entitled 'Modulation of growth hormone receptor expression and insulin-like growth factor expression'. Antisense said the patent covered ATL1103 targeting the human growth hormone receptor to reduce insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF-1) for the treatment of acromegaly and other diseases where reduction of IGF-1 was associated with benefit including certain cancers and complications from diabetes such as diabetic nephropathy and retinopathy. The company said the patent would be registered in the coming months and provided protection in Europe to 2024, with potential for extension to 2029.

Antisense said the patent added to granted patents covering ATL1103 in the US, Canada, Japan, Australia and NZ.

Antisense was up half a cent or 4.8 percent to 11 cents.

## **AVITA MEDICAL**

Avita says its share purchase plan has raised \$1,135,500 through the issue of 18,314,508 shares at 6.2 cents a share.

In March, Avita raised \$5,042,280 through a placement and said the share purchase plan could raise up to \$6,050,736 (BD: Mar 12, 2015).

The company said that the funds would "help drive the continued development of the regenerative product platform while driving the commercial stage pipeline". Avita was unchanged at 7.4 cents.

# PATRYS

The Port Kembla, New South Wales-based Mladen Marusic says he has ceased his substantial shareholder in Patrys, selling 600,000 shares for \$8,400 or 1.4 cents a share. Last year Mr Marusic said he became substantial with the acquisition of 35,123,131 shares (5.03%) buying 3,736,683 shares between July 30 and November 27, 2014 for \$84,395 or an average price of 2.26 cents a share (BD: Dec 8, 2014). Patrys fell 0.1 cents or 7.1 percent to 1.3 cents with 2.3 million shares traded.

## **GI DYNAMICS**

GI Dynamics says it has completed the 10-for-one consolidation of its US shares and returns to trading under the ASX code GID tomorrow, April 17, 2015.

GI Dynamics said that the Australian CHESS depositary interests (CDI) were not being consolidated and CDI holders would hold the same number of CDIs following the consolidation but each CDI would represent one-fiftieth of a share of common stock following the consolidation.

GI Dynamics said that Australian CDIs had been traded using the code GIDDA.

GI Dynamics was up one cent or 8.7 percent to 12.5 cents with 2.1 million shares traded.

#### **BUCHAN CONSULTING**

Buchan Consulting says its April Three Tickers event will focus on neuroscience with contributions from Actinogen, Bionomics and Innate Immunotherapeutics.

The public relations and investor relations company said that the event, entitled 'Brain Medicine - The new Frontier' would examine the emerging growth of neuroscience drug development as diseases like Alzheimer's and depression become the leading health issues of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Buchan said that Forbes Magazine had forecast that brain drugs should undergo a boom thanks to factors such as genetic sequencing and new DNA editing technologies.

Buchan said that Actinogen' Dr Bill Ketelbey, Bionomics' Dr Deborah Rathjen and Innate's Simon Wilkinson would engage in a panel discussion and question and answer session on the trends and issues in neuroscience drug development.

Buchan said that Wilson HTM corporate finance business director Michael Lusis would moderate the event.

The Three Tickers event will be held on Thursday April 30, 2015 at the RACV Club, Level 2, 501 Bourke Street, Melbourne, from 12.30pm to 2pm.

RSVP to Steven Anderson at: <u>sanderson@buchanwe.com.au</u> by April 20, 2015.

#### **AUSBIOTECH**

Ausbiotech says that its Ausmedtech medical technologies conference in Melbourne on April 29 and 30 will feature the inaugural digital health public forum.

Ausbiotech said that the medical technologies group was in its eighth year and digital health was "one of the strongest trends ... transforming the delivery of healthcare ...

including but not limited to digital applications ... and wearable technology".

Ausbiotech said that the conference would be held at the Pullman Melbourne on the Park, formerly the Hilton Hotel in East Melbourne, on April 29 and 30, 2015.

The industry organization said the event would "bring together the Australian and international medical devices and diagnostics sector to discuss major issues in global [medical technology] success".

Ausbiotech said that the conference would have trade exhibitions, networking events and a networking and partnering platform for delegates to schedule 30-minute meetings with other attendees.

For more information, go to: <u>www.ausmedtech.com.au</u> or contact the event manager Kirsty Grimwade at <u>kgrimwade@ausbiotech.org</u> or telephone +613 9828 1406.