



Biotech Daily

Wednesday April 8, 2015

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX UP, BIOTECH DOWN: STARPHARMA UP 6%, PATRYS DOWN 9%**
- * **MESOBLAST EXPANDS US PHASE III BACK PAIN TRIAL TO EUROPE**
- * **DORSAVI WINS REPEAT VISAFE OHS ORDERS**
- * **CE MARK FOR GENERA'S PAPTYP, RTI-PLEX**
- * **ADELAIDE'S LYELL MCEWIN HOSPITAL JOINS PHARMAUST PPL-1 TRIAL**
- * **PATRYS APPOINTS DR JAMES CAMPBELL CEO, STARTS ON \$300k**
- * **FORMER MEDIBIO CHAIRMAN VINCE FAYAD RESIGNS**
- * **AUSBIOTECH VICTORIA BIOBEERS & BUBBLES**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.59 percent on Wednesday April 8, 2015 with the S&P ASX 200 up 34.7 points to 5,960.7 points.

Ten of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 16 fell, 10 traded unchanged and four were untraded.

Starpharma was the best, up three cents or 6.25 percent to 51 cents with 698,056 shares traded.

Genetic Technologies climbed 5.3 percent; Admedus rose 4.2 percent; Compumedics and Sirtex were up three percent or more; Benitec and Oncosil rose more than two percent; with CSL, Impedimed, Mesoblast and Neuren up by more than one percent.

Patrys led the falls, down 0.1 cents or 9.1 percent to one cent with 1.5 million shares traded.

Cellmid fell 8.7 percent; Prima lost 6.9 percent; Antisense was down 5.3 percent; Clinuvel and Universal Biosensors fell more than four percent; Biotron, Pharmaxis and Prana were down more than three percent; Anteo, Atcor and Osprey shed more than two percent; Optiscan and Resmed were down more than one percent; with Cochlear, Nanosonics, Psivida and Reva down by less than one percent.

MESOBLAST

Mesoblast says it intends to expand its MPC-06-ID phase III clinical program for chronic low back pain due to degenerative disc disease to sites in the European Union.

Mesoblast said the expansion of the US phase III mesenchymal precursor cell program followed “positive feedback from its recent meeting with the European Medicines Agency”.

The company said that it had general agreement from EMA on the target patient population, trial size, primary composite endpoint and comparators in the control population and intended to enroll patients across multiple European sites.

Mesoblast said the discussions with the EMA were part of a combined scientific and reimbursement advice under an EU pilot program known as Shaping European Early Dialogues (SEED) established to facilitate early dialogue between EMA, European Health Technology Assessment reimbursement bodies and selected companies with late-stage clinical development programs.

Mesoblast said that MPC-06-ID was one of seven medicines accepted for the SEED program and with program representatives the company had discussed clinical trial aspects of the development of MPC-06-ID including the safety database, mechanisms of action, patient population and trial size, composite endpoints, and comparators.

The company said that discussions also focused on access to EU markets and pharmacoeconomic endpoints that might lead to reimbursement.

Mesoblast said that the guidance from the meeting with SEED representatives might result in a final comprehensive EU development and commercialization program that had an increased likelihood of producing data acceptable for both registration and reimbursement review in multiple European countries.

Mesoblast was up four cents or 1.2 percent to \$3.32 with 918,052 shares traded.

DORSAVI

Dorsavi says it has additional sales with Melbourne’s Crown Casino, BP Australia and Monash Health using Visafe process for occupational health and safety purposes.

Dorsavi said that Visafe could be used in escalating steps, each a potential project, beginning with an audit of occupational health and safety processes and followed by assessment of the workforce, implementation and ongoing maintenance.

The company said Visafe consisted of wearable sensors to measure movement and muscle activity, enabling employers to assess injury risk, reduce insurance-related costs, achieve relevant compliance and test the effectiveness of proposed changes.

Dorsavi said it first carried out a round of assessments on gambling tables and tasks for Crown in 2013 and 2014 with a number of initiatives implemented to reduce injuries.

The company said that the new contract required a comparative assessment to determine the effectiveness of the initiatives and to inform further improvements in the workplace.

Dorsavi said that both the BP and Monash Health sales were repeat contracts and followed assessments with the data collected informing recommendations to improve the workplace and reduce injury.

Dorsavi chief executive officer Dr Andrew Ronchi said Visafe was “allowing companies to precisely understand where workplace risk is occurring and delivers real data that allows senior management to make informed decisions to improve workplace safety”.

“Dorsavi OHS is a compelling business partner for some of Australia’s largest corporates who are looking for the evidence to inform their business decisions,” Dr Ronchi said.

Dorsavi said Visafe had been used by corporations including BP, Sodexo, Martin Brower, Kennards Hire, Silverchain, Coles, Woolworths, Toll, Toyota, Orora and BHP Billiton.

Dorsavi was unchanged at 32.5 cents.

GENERA BIOSYSTEMS

Genera says it has Conformité Européenne (CE) mark approval for its Papttype human papillomavirus and RTI-plex respiratory illness molecular diagnostics assays.

Genera chief executive officer Richard Hannebery said the approval was “an important milestone in our commercialization strategy”.

Mr Hannebery said that the approvals provided “confidence to our prospective global [in-vitro diagnostics] partners that our high value [molecular diagnostics] assays can immediately start to generate income” as in-vitro diagnostics approved kits once an appropriately structured relationship was agreed and their sales force trained in the merits of the Ampasand-based assays.

Mr Hannebery said the CE mark allowed pathology customers to receive in-vitro diagnostics-approved kits without a requirement for self-validation.

“Finally, this certification may provide further comfort to prospective North American and Indian pathology customers assessing Genera’s products,” Mr Hannebery said.

Genera said it was continuing to develop its third Ampasand based assay the STI-plex for sexually transmitted infections.

Genera was up three cents or 10 percent to 33 cents.

PHARMAUST

Pharmaust says the Adelaide, South Australia public teaching hospital, the Lyell McEwin Hospital, had been added to its PPL-1 cancer trial.

Pharmaust said that it had Royal Adelaide Hospital ethics and governance approval to add the Lyell McEwin Hospital and with recruitment at both hospitals the company expected “faster progress in the treatment of patients at the next treatment doses”.

Pharmaust executive chairman Dr Roger Aston said the additional cancer centre should enhance patient recruitment with two dosage levels to be completed.

Pharmaust was up 0.1 cents or 7.1 percent to 1.5 cents with 23.8 million shares traded.

PATRY'S

Patrys says it has appointed Dr James Campbell as its managing director and chief executive officer, effective from April 13, 2015.

Patrys said that Dr Campbell was appointed a non-executive director in November 2014 and had more than 20 years experience in biotechnology management and leadership.

The company said Dr Campbell would begin a strategic review “exploring opportunities to strengthen the company’s development portfolio and focusing on investor relations”.

Patrys said that Dr Campbell would be initially part-time, but was expected to expand to full-time over the coming six months, with interim chief executive officer Roger McPherson providing assistance in the expanded role of chief operating officer.

The company said that Dr Campbell was previously the Chemgenex Pharmaceuticals chief operating officer and chief financial officer, which in 2011, was sold to Cephalon, now part of Teva Pharmaceuticals, for \$230 million (BD: Mar 29, Jun 1, 2011).

Patrys said that Dr Campbell was involved in the creation of Invivo and remained a director and was a director of Medibio and Prescient Therapeutics.

The company said that Dr Campbell’s fixed remuneration would be \$300,000 a year, including superannuation and related remuneration costs with an annual short term performance incentive of up to 30 percent of fixed remuneration and a long term equity incentive of up to 15,000,000 loan shares, subject to shareholder approval.

Patrys fell 0.1 cents or 9.1 percent to one cent with 1.5 million shares traded.

[MEDIBIO \(FORMERLY BIOPROSPECT\)](#)

Medibio says former chairman Vince Fayad has resigned from the company, following the appointment last week of Chris Indermaur as chairman (BD: Apr 2, 2015).

Medibio said that the board composed Mr Indermaur, executive director Kris Knauer and non-executive director Dr James Campbell.

The company said its advisory committee comprised of Stephen Pearce, Dr Hans Stampfer and Dr Stephen Addis.

Medibio fell 2.5 cents or 8.5 percent to 27 cents.

[AUSBIOTECH](#)

Ausbiotech says it will host a Bio-Beers and Bubbles social event to promote networking in the life sciences sector on Thursday, April 23, 2015.

Ausbiotech said that members and non-members were invited to attend and “share ideas, build relationships and make new contacts in an informal setting”.

The industry organization said that the Bio-Beers and Bubbles would be held at Upstairs at the Imperial, 522 Chapel Street South Yarra with nibbles provided and drinks available at bar prices, on April 23, 2015 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.