



Biotech Daily

Thursday May 21, 2015

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX, BIOTECH UP: PRIMA UP 191%, CIRCADIAN DOWN 12.5%**
- * **IP AUSTRALIA ACCEPTS PROTEOMICS DIABETIC KIDNEY TEST PATENT**
- * **DORSAVI SIGNS LONDON UNDERGROUND, VINCI FOR OHS DIAGNOSTICS**
- * **SANDON TAKES 10% OF ALCHEMIA**
- * **DIBBSBARKER APPOINTS ANNA FEROS FOR BIOTECH IP LAW**
- * **PETER ANASTASIOU JOINS BROTHER STEPHEN ON IMMURON BOARD**
- * **ONCOSIL APPOINTS PROF PIERCE CHOW FOR LIVER CANCER**
- * **PROBIOTEC APPOINTS WESLEY STRINGER CEO**
- * **ST VINCENT'S 'BEYOND PILLS & POTIONS' FORUM ON MONDAY**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market climbed 0.93 percent on Thursday May 21, 2015 with the S&P ASX 200 up 52.0 points to 5,662.3 points.

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

Prima was the best for the third day in a row, up 10.5 cents or 190.9 percent to 16 cents with 226.0 million shares traded, followed by Prana up 19 percent to 19 cents with 2.1 million shares traded.

Compumedics, Optiscan and Patrys climbed more than eight percent; Living Cell rose 6.7 percent; Cochlear was up 4.8 percent; Actinogen, Sirtex and Universal Biosensors were up more than three percent; Atcor, CSL, Genetic Technologies and Mesoblast rose more than two percent; Avita, Benitec, Impedimed, Tissue Therapies and Viralytics were up more than one percent; with Osprey and Resmed up by less than one percent.

Circadian led the few falls, down two cents or 12.5 percent to 14 cents with 5,850 shares traded. GI Dynamics, IDT, Neuren and Reva lost more than three percent; with Acrux and Admedus down by more than one percent.

PROTEOMICS INTERNATIONAL LABORATORIES

Proteomics says that 'IP Australia', formerly the Australian Patent Office, has accepted its patent for a diagnostic test for the diagnosis of diabetic kidney disease.

Proteomics said that the patent application was entitled 'Biomarkers associated with pre-diabetes, diabetes and diabetes related conditions' and when granted would be valid until September 2031.

Proteomics said that the application was "an important milestone in the development and commercialization of [its] test for the early diagnosis of kidney disease.

The company said that the ability to accurately detect early onset of diabetic kidney disease through a simple blood test had the potential to save world health care systems hundreds of millions of dollars annually.

Proteomics said that treating end-stage kidney disease with dialysis would cost \$12 billion every year in Australia by 2020.

The company said that current detection methods were not robust and lacked sensitivity, and doctors, patients and healthcare providers could benefit from having better tests that could deliver more effective diagnosis, prognosis and help monitor treatment.

Proteomics said that its test was developed from its proteomics-based technology platform, using protein biomarkers in blood to provide an accurate detection of the presence of disease.

The company said that patent application also provided a means to develop new drugs for treating diabetic kidney disease.

Proteomics said that it was seeking to secure patent protection for its diabetic kidney test in major markets including the US, Europe, China and India.

The company said that China's New Summit Biopharma would commercialize the test in China, where diabetes was a major and growing health issue.

Proteomics was up two cents or 9.8 percent to 22.5 cents.

DORSAVI

Dorsavi says it has signed London Underground and Vinci Construction UK as its first two UK occupational health and safety customers.

Dorsavi said that the agreements were "a major milestone" for the company and its Visafe wearable sensors, but the details of the contracts was confidential.

The company said that Visafe objectively measured human movement and provided actionable data for safety conscious companies, reducing risk and associated costs.

Dorsavi said that the London Underground carried more than one billion passengers last year and was the oldest rapid transit system in the world and it would provide the Visafe system to the stations and distribution services division to design ergonomically-improved vehicles for current and future drivers.

The company said that Vinci employed 68,000 workers in 100 countries and its UK branch would use Visafe to assess and document the impact of novel work practices and provide evidence of risk reduction among employees.

Dorsavi Europe chief operating officer Zoe Whyatt said that transportation and construction sectors were "ideally suited to Visafe".

"With the intensive manual handling and repetitive movements involved, these workers too commonly experience back and shoulder problems," Ms Whyatt said. "Visafe can change this pattern."

Dorsavi said that workplace injuries in the UK cost GBP14.2 billion (\$A20.0 billion) each year and resulted in more than eight million work days lost.

Dorsavi was up one cent or 3.6 percent to 29 cents.

ALCHEMIA

The Sydney-based Sandon Capital says it has increased its substantial holding in Alchemia from 20,057,846 shares (6.2%) to 32,632,484 shares (10.0%).

Sandon said it bought the 12,574,638 shares on-market, today, for \$744,352 or an average price of 5.9 cents a share.

Yesterday, Australian Ethical and Sandon became substantial in Alchemia, apparently acquiring most of Hunter Hall's shares (BD: May 20, 2015).

Alchemia was up 1.8 cents or 27.7 percent to 8.3 cents with 7.2 million shares traded.

DIBBSBARKER

Law firm Dibbsbarker says it has appointed life sciences intellectual property specialist Anna Feros to its Brisbane office as a partner.

Dibbsbarker said that Ms Feros had more than 20 years experience in general commercial law and intellectual property law including life sciences.

The law firm said that Ms Feros was previously a partner with the Edinburgh, Scotland-based Shepherd and Wedderburn, leading the firm's London media and technology practice and prior to that was employed in Australia and Mallesons (now King & Wood Mallesons) and was an associate in the Federal Court of Australia.

Dibbsbarker said that Ms Feros was previously the Queensland Department of Primary Industries & Fisheries director of intellectual property commercialization.

The firm said that in her 14 years in London and Cambridge Ms Feros held in-house roles and secondments with Pernod Ricard, Medimmune, Cambridge University, and Colt Telecommunications.

Dibbsbarker said that Ms Feros held Bachelor degrees in Science and Law and a Masters of Law from the University of Queensland.

Dibbsbarker said that Ms Feros was the fourth senior recruit in the commercial and intellectual property space in Brisbane in the last six months and the firm has made 12 partner and special counsel appointments in the last year, of which eight have been women and seven have been to the intellectual property and technology team.

IMMURON

Immuron says that major shareholder Peter Anastasiou has been appointed a director, joining his brother Stephen on the company's board.

Last year, Peter Anastasiou filed a substantial shareholder notice for Grandlodge and the Anastasiou Superannuation Fund saying they had increased their substantial holding in Immuron to 376,380,011 shares, but were diluted by the \$9.66 million 11-for-six rights issue to 12.61 percent (BD: Mar 5, 2014).

Today, Immuron said that Mr Anastasiou was "a serial entrepreneur and investor with extensive experience in business ... [and was] credited with rebuilding a number of companies through the implementation of various corporate restructurings, acquisitions and solid financial management practices, with his most recent success being managing the restructuring of Sabco to ensure the future of this 100 year old iconic Australian company".

The company said that Mr Anastasiou was the founding chairman of the ACSI Group of Companies, which has owned and managed consumer companies such as Sabco, Britex Carpet Care, Rug Doctor and Crystal Clear.

Immuron was untraded at 21 cents.

ONCOSIL MEDICAL

Oncosil says it has appointed Prof Pierce Chow as chairman of its hepatocellular carcinoma, or primary liver cancer, scientific advisory board.

Oncosil said that the appointment was “a major endorsement of Oncosil’s plans to actively pursue the [hepatocellular carcinoma] indication with the company’s Oncosil localized radiation treatment, in addition to the pancreatic cancer indication”.

The company said that Prof Chow was “a global leader in oncology” with particular emphasis on hepatocellular carcinoma and the development of medical devices.

Oncosil said that Prof Chow was a professor at the Duke-National University of Singapore US Graduate Medical School and a senior consultant surgeon at Singapore’s National Cancer Centre and the Singapore General Hospital and previously was the director of Singapore General Hospital’s Department of Experimental Surgery.

The company said that Prof Chow had led multi-disciplinary teams in translational research projects and multi-national investigator-initiated clinical trials.

Oncosil said it had previously conducted two pilot clinical studies on the use of its localized radiation therapy treatment in hepatocellular carcinoma.

Oncosil was unchanged at 11 cents.

PROBIOTEC

Probiotec says that following “a comprehensive executive search” Wesley Stringer would replace his father Wayne Stringer as its chief executive officer, from July 1, 2015.

Probiotec said that Wesley Stringer was currently the chief operating officer and previously “held roles with KPMG, BNP Baripas and Deutsche Bank in taxation and finance”.

The company said that Wayne Stringer would stand down from both the chief executive officer position and as a director.

Wesley Stringer’s brother Jared Stringer is Probiotec’s chief financial officer and company secretary.

In March, Wayne Stringer increased his holding in the company he founded to 9,637,690 shares or 18.2 percent (BD: Mar 5, 2015).

Probiotec was untraded at 18 cents.

THE ST VINCENT’S INSTITUTE

Melbourne’s St Vincent’s Institute Forum says its Annual Forum on Monday May 25, 2015 will discuss the 21st Century “post-pills and potions” revolution in therapeutic medicine.

The Institute said the Forum would bring together leaders in medicine, medical research and biotechnology to reflect upon the possibilities opened up by the therapeutic revolution and would be chaired by patron Prof Gustav Nossal (BD: Apr 27, 2015).

The Institute said that speakers at the Forum would include the University of Oxford’s Prof Marc Feldmann, St Vincent’s Hospital’s Prof Peter Choong and Prof Michael Parker.

The Forum will be held at the Philippa Brazill Lecture Theatre, Daniel Mannix Building, Australian Catholic University, 12 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, on May 25, 2015 at 5:45pm for 6:15pm. Refreshments will be served on arrival.

The Institute said the event was free of charge but registration was required by May 18, 2015 at: https://www.svi.edu.au/news/the_svi_forum_2015_beyond_pills.

**Biotech Daily can be contacted at: PO Box 5000, Carlton, Victoria, Australia, 3053
email: editor@biotechdaily.com.au; www.biotechdaily.com.au; twitter: @biotech_daily**