



Biotech Daily

Friday July 17, 2015

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX FLAT, BIOTECH UP: ANALYTICA UP 25%; POLYNOVO DOWN 5%**
- * **GENERA INDIA DISTRIBUTOR, COMPLETES 2013 PAPTYP TRIAL**
- * **PHYLOGICA, UQ \$670k ARC LINKAGE GRANT**
- * **USCOM TAKES CAPITAL RAISING HALT TO SUSPENSION**
- * **TIM ROBERTSON, FARJOY TAKES 6% OF MEDLAB**
- * **MEDLAB CEO SEAN HALL TAKES 34%, CHAIR MICHAEL HALL TAKES 7%**
- * **DIRECTOR DREW TOWNSEND TAKES 10% OF MEDLAB**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market edged up 0.1 percent on Friday July 17, 2015 with the ASX200 up 0.5 points to 5,670.1 points.

Nineteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 12 fell, seven traded unchanged and two were untraded.

Analytica was the best, up 0.2 cents or 25 percent to one cent with 3.9 million shares traded.

Antisense climbed 9.1 percent; Tissue Therapies was up 7.4 percent; Prana was up 6.25 percent; Compumedics rose 5.8 percent; Bionomics, IDT, Living Cell and Pharmaxis were up more than four percent; Ellex was up 3.3 percent; Acrux, Actinogen, Anteo, Atcor, Benitec, Circadian, Nanosonics, Osprey and Sirtex rose more than two percent; with Cochlear and CSL up by less than one percent.

Polynovo led the falls, down 0.5 cents or 4.55 percent to 10.5 cents, with 217,005 shares traded.

Impedimed, Optiscan and Prima lost more than three percent; Avita, Mesoblast and Starpharma shed more than two percent; Neuren, Universal Biosensors and Viralytics were down more than one percent; with Medical Developments, Psivida and Resmed down by less than one percent.

GENERA BIOSYSTEMS

Genera says it has a non-exclusive commercial supply and distribution agreement with Genecell Diagnostics Private to supply its Ampasand molecular diagnostics in India. Genera said that the new Delhi, India-based Genecell would supply the assays to two pathology groups, Curehealth Diagnostics and SRL Diagnostics.

The company said it would work with Genecell for internal validation in August with shipments of kits expected by October and first customer receipts by December 2015. Genera said that SRL had 43 percent market share of the organized Indian pathology sector, with 258 laboratories and 6,300 collection points.

Genera chief executive officer Richard Hannebery said that India was “an enormous opportunity for Genera”.

Genera said that India's medical diagnostics market was worth about \$US3.2 billion a year, of which 10 percent was in the organized pathology sector with substantial market fragmentation and challenges existing outside that space.

“Given the highly fragmented nature of the Indian market ... it is imperative that we enter with the right partner,” Mr Hannebery said.

Genera said that its 6,000-patient ‘Predictors 3’ clinical study of its Papttype human papillomavirus (HPV) diagnostic was completed in May 2015 at London’s Wolfson Institute of Preventive Medicine.

In 2013, Genera executive chairman Lou Panaccio said the company had had “delays in completing the key UK 6,000 patient screening trial” (BD: Jun 6, 2012; Jul 17, 2013).

Today, Genera said it expected the study data to be made available in the next month to facilitate confidential sharing with prospective global in-vitro diagnostic partners.

The company said that volumes of HPV testing in Australia were expected to increase to 1.3 million tests a year with the introduction of a new cervical cancer screening regime, and the global market for HPV testing was expected to exceed \$US2 billion a year “as numerous countries follow Australia’s lead in replacing the traditional pap smear with HPV testing as the front line screening tool in the fight against cervical cancer in women”.

Genera fell 3.5 cents or 10.6 percent to 29.5 cents.

PHYLOGICA

Phylogica says that with the University of Queensland’s Institute for Molecular Bioscience it has won a \$670,000 Australian Research Council Linkage Grant.

Phylogica said that the grant would help fund the development of “a novel platform to generate macrocyclic Phylomer libraries”.

The company said that macrocycles were “an emerging class of therapeutic peptides that have been chemically modified to form circular structures”.

Phylogica said that cyclized peptides had “very favourable drug-like properties”, which allowed them to bind more effectively to drug targets and to resist being broken down in the body like normal peptides.

The company said that in some cases macrocyclics could be chemically engineered to enter cells and hit targets inaccessible to conventional drugs, which would “further add to Phylogica’s ability to deliver drugs inside cells”.

Phylogica chief executive officer Dr Richard Hopkins said the grant had the “potential to provide Phylogica with a firm foothold in the macrocyclic peptide space that is dominated by companies such as Peptidream, which is currently valued at over \$1 billion”.

“While demand for therapeutic macrocyclic peptides is growing rapidly, platforms capable of generating libraries of macrocyclic drugs are very rare,” Dr Hopkins said.

Phylogica was unchanged at 1.3 cents with 3.8 million shares traded.

USCOM

Uscom has requested a voluntary suspension to follow the trading halt requested on July 15, "pending an announcement in relation to a potential capital raising and transaction" (BD: Jul 15, 2015).

Uscom last traded at 18 cents.

MEDLAB CLINICAL

The Sydney-based Farjoy Pty Ltd says it has become a substantial shareholder in the newly listed Medlab with 10,000,000 shares or 6.22% percent (BD: Jul 15, 2015).

The substantial shareholder notice, signed by managing-director Timothy Frank Robertson, said that 5,000,000 shares were acquired on August 19, 2014 for \$250,000 and 5,000,000 shares were bought on July 9, 2015 for \$1,000,000.

Medlab fell half a cent or 2.6 percent to 18.5 cents.

MEDLAB CLINICAL

Medlab chairman Michael Hall, through FIT Investments for the Hallab Investment Trust has become a substantial shareholder with 10,967,778 shares (6.82%).

In a separate notice, Medlab chief executive officer Sean Michael Hall said that he became a substantial shareholder with 54,922,222 shares (34.15%).

MEDLAB CLINICAL

Medlab director Drew Townsend says he has become a substantial shareholder in the company with 15,500,000 shares (9.64%)

Mr Townsend said he held 10,500,000 shares directly through Realm Group and had an indirect interest in 5,000,000 shares held by Rolay Pty Ltd, a company of which he said his wife Carolyn Townsend was a director and shareholder.