



# Biotech Daily

Tuesday August 25, 2015

*Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies*

- \* **ASX, BIOTECH UP: OPTISCAN UP 17%, LIVING CELL DOWN 11%**
- \* **3D MEDICAL, INTELERAD PARTNER FOR DIRECT IMAGING**
- \* **FINAL RESULTS BACK AIRXPANDERS AEROFORM DEVICE**
- \* **PROGEN REVENUE UP 64% to \$6m, LOSS DOWN 14% TO \$2m**
- \* **RA CAPITAL BELOW 5% OF BENITEC**
- \* **PROFS MCARTHUR, ROBERTS, EMERY JOIN VICTORIA CANCER CENTRE**
- \* **IMMURON APPOINTS EX-ALCHEMIA THOMAS LIQUARD CEO**
- \* **DIBBS BARKER APPOINTS DR ANDREW RANKINE FOR BIOTECH IP**
- \* **MEDIBIO REQUESTS 'STRESS PRODUCT AGREEMENT' TRADING HALT**

## MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market rebounded 2.72 percent on Tuesday August 25, 2015 with the ASX200 up 136.0 points to 5,137.3 points.

Sixteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 13 fell, 10 traded unchanged and one was untraded.

Optiscan was best, up 0.6 cents or 16.7 percent to 4.2 cents with 329,300 shares traded, followed by Orthocell up 13.3 percent to 64 cents and IDT up 10.6 percent to 26 cents.

Circadian, Impedimed and Mesoblast climbed five percent or more; Prima was up 4.3 percent; Biotron, Osprey and Sirtex were up three percent or more; Antisense, Clinuvel, CSL and Neuren rose more than two percent; Acrux, Compumedics and Reva were up more than one percent; with Cochlear up 0.7 percent.

Living Cell led the falls, down 0.4 cents or 10.8 percent to 3.3 cents with 241,439 shares traded.

Anteo fell 4.2 percent; Cellmid and Prana were down more than three percent; Atcor, Avita, Benitec, Medical Developments, Oncosil, Pharmaxis and Psivida shed more than two percent; Nanosonics and Viralytics were down more than one percent; with Resmed down 0.4 percent.

### 3D MEDICAL

3D Medical says it has partnered with the Montreal, Quebec-based Intelrad Medical Systems for ordering its patient-specific 3D printed anatomical models and services. 3D said that orders would be placed from Intelrad's Inteleviewer software to 3D while the clinician was reviewing a patient's diagnostic image study.

The company said that Intelrad had been a leader in distributed radiology for 15 years, specializing in picture archiving and communication systems and workflow products for healthcare organisations.

3D said that Intelrad's programs increased productivity and streamlined workflow in distributed and multi-site environments such as radiology practices and hospitals and were used in more than 1,000 sites across Oceania, North America and the UK.

3D chairman Dr Nigel Finch said the agreement was "an exciting step in establishing the protocol for the clinical use of [three-dimensional] printed anatomical models to deliver greater medical certainty and improved patient outcomes".

"It also presents a material scale opportunity for clinical users of Intelrad's software to immediately access our 3D printing services," Dr Finch said. "Over the next few months we will work closely with Intelrad on developing a seamless workflow for clinicians to order patient-specific 3D printed anatomical models direct from 3D."

Intelrad chief technology officer Chris Henri said that "by enabling radiologists to order high-quality models from 3D directly from within Inteleviewer, we are not only helping to raise the quality of care available, but doing so in manner that is both easy and efficient for the clinician".

3D Medical was up one cent or 17.9 percent to 6.6 cents with two million shares traded.

### AIRXPANDERS

Airxpanders says its pivotal 150-patient Xpand trial of its Aeroform breast tissue expander has met its primary endpoint in patients that have undergone a mastectomy.

Airxpanders said that the randomized, controlled trial at 17 US sites showed that subjects in the study arm achieved successful exchange to a permanent implant with the same safety profile as saline tissue expanders.

The company said it had completed the clinical trial report, which complemented and supported the preliminary results published in 2014 (BD: May 25, 2015).

Airxpanders said the results would be submitted to the US Food and Drug Administration as part of the 510(k) dossier planned to be delivered to the FDA shortly.

The company said that the final trial results would be presented at the American Society of Plastic Surgery meeting on October 18, 2015, in Boston, Massachusetts.

Airxpanders chief executive officer Scott Dodson said the company was "encouraged by the results of our pivotal trial which are consistent with the previous trials that Airxpanders has conducted".

The company said that Aeroform used a needle-free controlled delivery of small amounts of carbon dioxide to achieve the tissue expansion usually required for the placement of a permanent breast implant, allowing patients to control the expansion process themselves without having to schedule as many clinical visits.

Airxpanders said that it planned to launch Aeroform in the US immediately following FDA 510(k) clearance.

The company said that Aeroform had Conformité Européenne (CE) mark and Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration approvals.

Airxpanders was up one cent or 1.4 percent to 73 cents.

## PROGEN PHARMACEUTICALS

Progen says revenue for the year to June 30, 2015, fell 40.2 percent to \$3,443,201 with net loss after tax up 159.2 percent to \$4,684,104.

Progen said that the increased loss was “mainly attributed to the significant decrease in contract manufacturing revenues of the manufacturing division ...and a corresponding increase in the manufacturing costs and expenses”.

The company said there was an increase in research and development costs from clinical and non-clinical stage drug development, including the phase I clinical trial of PG545.

Last year, Progen said most of its revenue was from manufacturing by its Pharmasynth subsidiary, primarily for contracts from Taiwan licensee Medigen and two regular customers (BD: Aug 26, 2014).

Today, Progen said that diluted loss per share increased 157.6 percent to 8.5 cents at June 30, 2015 and net tangible assets per share fell 56.6 percent to 6.3 cents.

Progen said it had \$2,813,301 in cash at June 30, 2015, compared to \$2,981,215 at June 30, 2014.

Progen was up half a cent or 3.3 percent to 15.5 cents.

## BENITEC

The Sydney-based RA Capital Management has reduced its substantial shareholding in Benitec from 10,429,325 shares (9.00%) to 4,974,743 shares (3.4%).

RA Capital said the shares were held by RA Capital Healthcare Fund and Blackwell Partners, gave Citigroup as its address, and said the two entities sold 5,454,582 shares on-market for \$3,211,323 or an average of 58.9 cents a share on August 18, 2015.

On August 19, 2015 Benitec said it had raised \$18.8 million for its Nasdaq listing at 62.8 cents a share (BD: Aug 19, 2015).

In July RA sold 1,199,706 shares at an average of 82.65 cents a share and in February, RA sold 1,175,047 shares for 95.5 cents a share (BD: Feb 19, Jul 6, 2015).

RA Capital became substantial in the placement at \$1.07 a share (BD: Apr 17, 2014).

Benitec fell 1.5 cents or 2.6 percent to 55.5 cents.

## VICTORIA GOVERNMENT, VICTORIAN COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTRE

The Victoria Government says Prof Grant McArthur, Prof Andrew Roberts and Prof Jon Emery will oversee research and care at the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre.

A media release from the Minister for Health Jill Hennessy said the Parkville treatment, education and research facility would bring together researchers, clinicians and scientists to drive breakthroughs in cancer prevention, detection and treatment.

The Government said that from mid-2016, the Centre would be the home for the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, with more beds and double the number of operating theatres and procedure rooms, consulting rooms and radiation therapy bunkers and would “provide new state-of-the-art cancer research and clinical facilities for Melbourne Health [with] more than 25,000 square metres of dedicated space for over 1200 cancer researchers”.

The Government said that Prof McArthur and Prof Roberts had been appointed to lead the research and education relating to melanoma and haematology, respectively and Prof Jon Emery would oversee the delivery of primary care.

The media release said that the VCCC Alliance comprised the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Royal Melbourne Hospital, University of Melbourne, Royal Women's Hospital, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, Royal Children's Hospital, St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne, Western Health, Austin Health and the Murdoch Childrens' Research Institute.

## IMMURON

Immuron says that former Alchemia chief executive officer Thomas Liquard has been appointed chief executive officer effective from August 31, 2015.

Immuron said that Mr Liquard had held commercialization, product development and leadership roles with pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies.

The company said that Mr Liquard was Alchemia's chief operating officer (BD: Dec 16, 2013) before being appointed chief executive officer in 2014 (BD: Feb 24, 2014).

Mr Liquard left Alchemia following the failure of the phase III trial of hyaluronic acid-irinotecan for metastatic colorectal cancer (BD: Oct 27, Nov 11, 2014).

Immuron said that prior to Alchemia, Mr Liquard was with Pfizer in New York for seven years, responsible for mergers and acquisitions, licencing, partnerships and product development, and prior to Pfizer, Mr Liquard was a consultant with the Frankel Group.

The company said Mr Liquard held a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Southern California and a Masters of Business Administration from New York's Columbia Business School

Immuron fell six cents or 12.9 percent to 40.5 cents, having climbed 57.6 percent from 29.5 cents on August 19 to 46.5 cents, last night.

## DIBBS BARKER

Law firm Dibbs Barker says that intellectual property law specialist Dr Andrew Rankine has been appointed as a special counsel in its Sydney office.

Dibbs Barker said that Dr Rankine's practice encompassed litigation and advisory work.

Dr Rankine told Biotech Daily that he completed a Bachelor of Science as well as a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery at the University of New South Wales and practiced for five years at Sydney's Concorde Repatriation General Hospital and the Sir Charles Gardiner Hospital in Perth, Western Australia.

Dr Rankine said he completed his Bachelor of Laws degree at the University of Sydney.

Dibbs Barker said that Dr Rankine had represented generic pharmaceutical companies such as Apotex, Actavis and Sandoz, and originator companies including Wyeth, before its merger with Pfizer, and Sanofi-Aventis.

The firm said Dr Rankine had acted for Novozymes on patent infringement and validity proceedings relating to enzyme technology, as well as Sanofi-Aventis and Pharmacor and had conducted opposition proceedings before the Australian Patent Office and provided strategic advice on freedom to operate, patent validity and patent extensions.

Dibbs Barker said that Dr Rankine had previously worked in the office of general counsel at the Australian Government Solicitor, advising the Department of Health and Aging on Australia's therapeutic goods legislation and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

## MEDIBIO (FORMERLY BIOPROSPECT)

Medibio has requested a trading halt pending "the announcement of the completion of an agreement to trial its corporate stress product" (BD: Aug 21, 2015).

Trading will resume on August 27, 2015 or on an earlier announcement.

Medibio last traded at 45 cents.