



# Biotech Daily

Wednesday February 10, 2016

*Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies*

- \* **ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: LIVING CELL UP 10%, MESOBLAST DOWN 12%**
- \* **NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR \$40k VICTORIA PREMIER'S AWARDS**
- \* **UNILIFE EXTENDS AMGEN OPTION, DEFERS LOANS, \$11m SHARES**
- \* **UNILIFE H1 REVENUE UP 13% TO \$11m, LOSS UP 23% TO \$51m**
- \* **AMPLIPHI: FEDERAL \$860k WESTMEAD BACTERIOPHAGE GRANT**
- \* **MMJ, YISSUM APPLY FOR MARIJUANA DELIVERY US PATENTS**
- \* **REGAL FUNDS TAKES 11% OF ONCOSIL**
- \* **WAYNE PATERSON ADMEDUS CHAIR; CHRIS CATLOW, GRAEME ROWLEY GO**

## MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 1.17 percent on Wednesday February 10, 2016 with the ASX200 down 56.4 points to 4,775.7 points.

Nine of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 18 fell, 11 traded unchanged and two were untraded.

Living Cell was the best, up half a cent or 9.6 percent to 5.7 cents with 110,786 shares traded, followed by Opthea (Circadian) up 9.1 percent to 36 cents with two million shares traded.

Both Avita and Optiscan climbed five percent; Clinuvel was up 3.45 percent; Medical Developments and Nanosonics rose more than two percent; Cochlear, Neuren and Starpharma were up more than one percent; with Resmed up 0.4 percent.

Mesoblast led the falls, down 16 cents or 11.8 percent to \$1.20 with 1.1 million shares traded.

IDT lost 9.4 percent; Ellex and Orthocell were down more than six percent; Cellmid, Genetic Technologies and Oncosil all fell five percent; Bionomics, Impedimed and Sirtex were down more than three percent; with Actinogen, Admedus, Benitec, CSL, Osprey, Polynovo, Prana, Pro Medicus and Universal Biosensors down more than one percent.

## VICTORIA GOVERNMENT

Victoria Premier Daniel Andrews has called for nominations for the 2016 Premier's Awards for Health and Medical Research.

The media release from Mr Andrews office did not specify the number and value of the awards but referred applicants to the Victorian Endowment for Science, Knowledge and Innovation (Veski) website, which said it would be administering the 2016 awards.

The Veski website said that the Premier's Award was "a joint initiative of the Government of Victoria and the Australian Society for Medical Research" and the recipient of the Premier's Award would receive \$16,000 as well as a trophy and a certificate, with three prizes worth \$8,000 each for "highly commended" applicants.

The Premier's media release said that the awards were in their 22nd year and had honored more than 80 researchers from cancer to immunology, infection and neuroscience.

Until 2012, the \$30,000 Jack and Robert Smorgon Families Award was granted to the institute where the winner of the Premier's award worked.

The value of the prizes has not increased since at least 2007.

The media release said that nominations would close on March 10, with the winners to be announced in June 2016.

To apply go to: [www.veski.org.au/pahmr](http://www.veski.org.au/pahmr).

## UNILIFE CORP

Unilife says it has extended Amgen's option for 19.9 percent of the company, deferred Orbimed loan repayments, and a Fund has converted \$US7,500,000 in shares.

In a series of announcement to the US Securities and Exchange commission, written in dense America legalese, Unilife extended Amgen's option agreement to take a 19.9 percent stake to February 15, 2016, revised loan and repayment dates with Orbimed Advisors affiliate ROS Acquisition Offshore, and announced the conversion of shares by the Discover Growth Fund (BD: Oct 6, 2014; Jul 2, 30, Oct 19, 2015).

Unilife announced the Amgen option on January 4, 2016, saying that Amgen had paid a non-refundable \$US15 million (\$A21.4 million) to negotiate until the end of January 2016 for wearable injector devices for Amgen drugs (BD: Jan 25, 2016).

Unilife has a separate deal with Novartis and last year amended a 2013 supply agreement with Novartis to supply injectable drug delivery systems for use with an early-stage drug (BD: Dec 3, 2013; Sep 25, 2015).

On February 2, Unilife said the Amgen negotiating period had been extended to February 5 and yesterday said it had been further extended to February 15, 2016.

Also on February 2, Unilife said it had a fifth amendment to its agreement with Orbimed affiliate ROS to defer the due date for the December 31, 2015 interest payment of \$US1,700,857 from February 5 to February 9, 2016, as well as interest, fees and expenses.

Unilife said that under a royalty agreement ROS agreed to defer the due date for \$US124,750 of the January 30, 2016 royalty payment to February 1, 2016, and \$US678,150 of the January 30, 2016 royalty payment to February 9, 2016.

On February 4, 2016, Unilife said in a US SEC filing that under a November, 2015 stock purchase agreement the Discover Growth Fund bought 790 shares of its Series A redeemable convertible preferred stock for \$US7,500,000 (\$A10,615,100) in cash and had converted all of the preferred shares and had been issued 8,316,678 shares of US common stock.

Unilife fell one cent or 4.35 percent to 22 cents with 2.8 million shares traded.

### UNILIFE

Unilife says that revenue for the six months to December 31, 2015, was up 13.3 percent to \$US7,686,000 (\$A10,890,970) with net loss after tax up 23.1 percent to \$US51,287,000 (\$A72,664,270).

Last year Unilife said that revenue for the six months to December 31, 2014, was up 0.3 percent to \$US6,783,000 with net loss after tax up 43.7 percent to \$US42,346,000.

Unilife said it had cash and cash equivalents of \$US17,971,000 compared to \$US8,448,000 at December 31, 2014.

### AMPLIPHI BIOSCIENCES CORPORATION

Ampliphi says that research collaborator Sydney's Westmead Institute's Centre for Infectious Diseases and Microbiology has won a Federal Government \$860,000 grant.

Ampliphi said the grant was for the isolation and development of phages that target Escherichia coli and Klebsiella pneumonia and it would provide bacteriophage expertise, with head of research Sandra Morales collaborating with Westmead's Prof Jon Iredell.

Last night on the Amex, Apliphi fell 26 US cents or 7.6 percent to \$US3.15.

### MMJ PHYTOTECH

MMJ Phytotech says it has extended its licence agreement with Israel's Yisum Institute to include two new patent applications for oral delivery of medicinal cannabis.

MMJ said that Yisum was the commercialisation arm of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the US Patent and Trademark office application extended granted patents.

Last year, Phytotech said the Yisum agreement included "all intellectual property and know-how rights held by Yisum in respect of an inner cheek patch (buccal mucosdhesive patch) for the delivery of [cannabinoid or tetrahydrocannabinols] for the treatment or prevention of any medical condition or disease in humans, but excluding the treatment and/or relief of sleep apnea, snoring and/or any sleep disorder and/or any other disorder that occurs during sleep", amended to include oral formulation (BD: Jan 22, 2015).

Today, MMJ said that the extension of the Yisum licence to include two new US provisional patent applications meant it had a comprehensive intellectual property portfolio for the oral delivery of medicinal cannabis.

The company said the first patent covered water soluble formulations of tetrahydrocannabinol and cannabinoid that formed nanometre range particle sizes on contact with an aqueous solution.

MMJ said the second patent was for dry, rapid water dispersible nanoparticles containing cannabinoids incorporated into a biodegradable polymer, offering high yield, extended release, high bio-availability and water solubility, delivered in a range of formulations.

MMJ was up 1.5 cents or 5.4 percent to 29.5 cents.

### ONCOSIL

The Sydney-based Regal Funds Management says it has become a substantial shareholder in Oncosil with 45,454,546 shares (10.98%).

The substantial shareholder notice said the shares were acquired at 22 cents each and were held by UBS AG Australia, and Merrill Lynch International.

Last week, Oncosil said it had raised \$10 million in a placement at 22 cents a share to an institutional investor (BD: Feb 3, 2016).

Oncosil fell one cent or five percent to 19 cents with 6.3 million shares traded.

## ADMEDUS

Admedus says that Wayne Paterson has been appointed non-executive chairman replacing Chris Catlow who has resigned, as has director Graeme Rowley.

Yesterday, Admedus said that independent non-executive director Peter Turvey had resigned “due to other commitments” (BD: Feb 9, 2015).

Today, Admedus said that Mr Catlow and Mr Rowley had been directors for five years and had been involved with the group for 11 years holding non-executive director positions for subsidiary companies.

Admedus chief executive officer Lee Rodne said the board “now consists of directors with extensive experience in each of our core product areas with specific backgrounds in sales, marketing, general management and corporate governance”.

The company said that Mr Paterson was appointed a director last year, along with John Seaberg.

Admedus said that Mr Paterson’s had 25 years in the pharmaceutical industry, managing operations at Roche and Merck, working in Europe, Canada, Japan and Australia.

The Admedus board is composed of Mr Paterson, Mr Rodne, Michael Bennett and Mr Seaberg.

Admedus fell one cent or 1.6 percent to 62 cents.