



Biotech Daily

Wednesday July 19, 2017

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX UP, BIOTECH DOWN: DIMERIX UP 7%, COMPUMEDICS DOWN 8%**
- * **UNIQUEST, PREVECEUTICAL DIABETES, OBESITY GENE THERAPY**
- * **FDA CLEARS DORSAVI VIMOVE2 FOR LOWER BACK ACTIVITY**
- * **CE MARK, TGA APPROVAL FOR EPAT PAIN RECOGNITION DIAGNOSTIC**
- * **RHINOMED RECEIVES WALGREENS US MUTE ORDERS**
- * **CANN, 19.9% OWNER AURORA AGREE MARIJUANA INFO EXCHANGE**
- * **LAURENCE GRIMES COX, LGC TAKE 5% OF BLUECHIIP**
- * **MEDIBIO APPOINTS DR ADAM DARKINS DIRECTOR, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.79 percent on Wednesday July 19, 2017 with the ASX200 up 44.7 points to 5,732.1 points.

Twelve of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 21 fell, six traded unchanged and one was untraded.

Dimerix was the best, up 0.1 cents or 7.1 percent to 1.5 cents with 18.8 million shares traded.

Atcor and LBT climbed more than six percent; Avita and Prana improved more than five percent; Benitec, Living Cell and Neuren were up four percent or more; Osprey was up 3.2 percent; Bionomics rose 2.2 percent; with Medical Developments, Resmed and Starpharma up by less than one percent.

Compumedics led the falls, down four cents or eight percent to 46 cents with 54,070 shares traded.

Factor Therapeutics and Uscom lost more than five percent; Impedimed and Oncosil fell four percent or more; Cellmid, Orthocell and Prima were down more than three percent; Polynovo and Viralytics shed more than two percent; Acrux, Airxpanders, Clinuvel, Ellex, Nanosonics, Opthea, Pharmaxis, Pro Medicus and Universal Biosensors were down more than one percent; with Cochlear, CSL, Mesoblast and Sirtex down less than one percent.

UNIQUEST

Uniquet says it has a research agreement for a diabetes and obesity gene therapy with Canada's Preveceutical and the University of Queensland conducting the research.

Uniquet said the contract was the third research and option agreement with the Vancouver, British Columbia-based Preveceutical Medical.

The company said that the four-year research program would be led by the University of Queensland's School of Pharmacy researcher Dr Harendra Parekh in collaboration with the Queensland Berghofer Medical Research Institute's Prof Grant Ramm and the Perth, Western Australia-based Murdoch University's Dr Rakesh Veedu.

Dr Parekh said the research focus was on reducing levels of a protein implicated in both diabetes and obesity.

"By employing proprietary chemistries that span both carrier system design and gene engineering we have the potential to vastly improve the safety and efficiency of gene-related therapeutic approaches," Dr Parekh said.

"Our extensive earlier studies now pave the way for us to take this work through to pre-clinical evaluation and validation," Dr Parekh said.

Uniquet chief executive officer Dr Dean Moss said that he was "delighted to announce this cross-disciplinary collaboration, our third agreement with [Preveceutical] this year".

"Being able to offer translational expertise in multiple disease areas is a ringing endorsement of [the University of Queensland] research excellence and a great example of Uniquet's leadership in research commercialisation," Dr Moss said.

Uniquet said that no financial details were disclosed, but Preveceutical would have an option to negotiate a licence to Uniquet's intellectual property.

DORSAV

Dorsavi says the US Food and Drug Administration has cleared its Vimove2 wearable sensor to measure, record and analyse lower back movement and muscle activity.

Dorsavi said that the FDA 510(k) clearance paved the way for a US launch by July 2018.

The company said that Vimove2 included Bluetooth communication between sensors and a mobile telephone application, clinician and patient applications for data access, as well as smaller movement and electro-myography sensors to measure muscle activity.

Dorsavi said the Vimove2 had an accelerometer and gyroscope that measured the range of movement in the sagittal, or longitudinal determining left and right, and the coronal, or vertical determining front and back, anatomical planes, allowing clinicians to monitor patients outside the clinic and deliver tailored treatment programs.

Dorsavi chief executive officer Dr Andrew Ronchi said the regulatory clearance was "a major milestone" and the Vimove2 had "a mass-market clinical opportunity".

"Vimove2 is highly intuitive, simple and a faster to use device that is patient-friendly [and] the addition of a patient app allows patient and therapists to monitor progress and improve adherence to treatment regimes, ultimately leading to better patient outcomes through quality movement data," Dr Ronchi said.

Dorsavi said that Vimove2 was launched in Australia in May 2017 and would be launched in the UK by the end of 2017.

The company said it was "experiencing strong growth and high levels of customer satisfaction in the US clinical market".

Dorsavi said that Vimove2 had been developed as an ongoing annuity revenue product, replacing the unit sale or short-term lease model of the original Vimove.

Dorsavi was up three cents or 8.6 percent to 38 cents.

EPAT TECHNOLOGIES

Epat says its mobile telephone application for assessing pain in patients unable to verbalize has Conformité Européenne (CE) mark and is cleared for use in Australia.

Epat said that the facial recognition system has been approved by the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration and included on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods as a class 1 medical device.

The company said the device was on-schedule to be launched in Australia by the end of 2017 and in Europe during 2018.

Epat said that the application was intended “to assess and monitor pain in people who cannot verbalise such as people with dementia or communication difficulties”, which was currently done by nurses and carers using a multi-question assessment system.

The company said that its program assessed facial micro-expressions that were indicative of the presence of pain.

Epat chief executive officer Philip Daffas said the approval was “a critical milestone in the commercialization of the Epat app”.

“We are now in a position to implement our commercialisation plans in the final quarter of 2017 as we had originally planned,” Mr Daffas said.

Epat climbed 0.7 cents or 25 percent to 3.5 cents with 179.8 million shares traded.

RHINOMED

Rhinomed says purchase orders confirm that Walgreens will stock all Mute sleep and breathing nasal plugs at about 4,300 pharmacies and drug-stores in the US.

Rhinomed said that it had begun shipping the trial, small, medium and large packs, which were expected to appear on Walgreens shelves from late August 2017.

The company said that a promotional program would begin by the end of 2017 to “one of the world’s largest and most iconic pharmacy [and] drug-store chains”.

Rhinomed said that Walgreens decision was “a major milestone event for the company ... [and reflects the growing adoption of Mute in the US consumer health market”.

Rhinomed was up nine cents or 50 percent to 27 cents with 1.2 million shares traded

CANN GROUP

Cann says it has a technical services agreement with 19.9 percent owner Aurora Cannabis for marijuana growing, extraction and analysis.

Cann said that the agreement with the Vancouver, British Columbia-based Aurora would run until the end of 2022 and would support “an exchange of information and support across areas including the cultivation and processing of medical cannabis, extraction and manufacturing technology, and analysis of cannabis extracts”.

The company said that Aurora was Canada’s second largest publicly listed medical cannabis producer and the first Canadian company to establish purpose-built cultivation facilities.

Cann chairman Allan McCallum said the agreement would provide technical support as the company expands its Melbourne research, development and cultivation facilities.

“This agreement will facilitate close co-operation and valuable technical support as we continue to develop our business in the Australian market,” Mr McCallum said.

Cann chief executive officer Peter Crock said the company was positioning itself as “one of the significant players in the Australian market” completing the expansion of its southern facility and expected to commission a larger capacity northern facility this year.

Cann fell half a cent or 0.85 percent to 58.5 cents.

[BLUECHIIP](#)

Melbourne's LGC Superannuation and its director Laurence Grimes Cox say they have become substantial shareholders in Bluechiip with 20,134,081 shares or 5.2 percent.

Mr Cox said the shares were acquired for \$563,754 or 2.8 cents a share.

Earlier this month Bluechiip said it raised \$3,422,228 in its rights issue at 2.8 cents a share and a placement to sophisticated and professional investors (BD: Jul 5, 2017).

Bluechiip was unchanged at 3.6 cents.

[MEDIBIO](#)

Medibio says it has appointed Dr Adam Darkins as a director and deputy chairman of the company.

Medibio said that Dr Darkins had experience in taking national and trans-national virtual care delivery systems to scale and developed an understanding of patient care, clinical processes and outcomes measurement from his physician training at Manchester University Medical School, as a neurosurgeon and researcher at the University of California Los Angeles and had studied public health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine,

The company said that Dr Darkins had lead tele-health programs at the US Department of Veterans Affairs where he developed health informatics, tele-health and disease management technologies to enhance and extend care and case management, building a capacity to deliver virtual services to more than 480,000 veterans each year.

Medibio said that most recently Dr Darkins was Medtronic's Americas head of innovation and strategic partnerships, working on new health care payment models.

Dr Darkins LinkedIn page said he held a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery for the University of Manchester, a Master's in Public Health Medicine from the University of London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and a Master's Certificate in Project Management from the Washington DC-based George Washington University.

Medibio was up half a cent or 1.45 percent to 35 cents.