

# **Biotech** Daily

## Monday July 24, 2017

# Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

\* ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: AIRXPANDERS UP 7.5%, DIMERIX DOWN 17%

- \* VICTORIA MARKS 4,000<sup>th</sup>, 1,000<sup>th</sup> CHILD COCHLEAR EAR IMPLANT
- \* TBG HLA DIAGNOSTIC WINS CE MARK TAIWAN APPROVAL
- \* ADALTA, LA TROBE UNI \$427k FEDERAL FELLOWSHIP
- \* EPAT RESPONDS TO PAIN SOFTWARE ASX AWARE QUERY
- \* BIONOMICS INCLUDED IN US OTCQX INDEX
- \* PHYLOGICA PLEADS SCHULTZ TO ASX 29% QUERY
- \* NOVITA COMPLETES NEWLY ACQUISITION
- \* BIOTECH CAPITAL NAME CHANGE TO BTC HEALTH

#### MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 0.61 percent on Monday July 24, 2017 with the ASX200 down 34.7 points to 5,688.1 points.

Thirteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 17 fell, nine traded unchanged and one was untraded. All three Big Caps fell.

Airxpanders was the best, up 4.5 cents or 7.5 percent to 64.5 cents, with 73,163 shares traded.

Benitec, LBT and Starpharma climbed more than three percent; Bionomics, Genetic Signatures, Pharmaxis and Polynovo improved two percent or more; with Cyclopharm, Factor Therapeutics, Nanosonics, Oncosil and Psivida up more than one percent.

Dimerix led the falls, down 0.25 cents or 17.2 percent to 1.2 cents with 27.6 million shares traded.

Prima lost eight percent; Impedimed, Living Cell and Viralytics fell four percent or more; Mesoblast was down 3.35 percent; Atcor and Orthocell shed more than two percent; Acrux, Actinogen, Admedus, Cochlear, Ellex, Neuren and Resmed were down one percent or more; with Clinuvel, CSL, Opthea, Pro Medicus and Sirtex down by less than one percent.

### VICTORIA GOVERNMENT, COCHLEAR

Victoria's Minister for Health Jill Hennessy says the 4,000<sup>th</sup> Cochlear ear implant has been implanted in the 1,000<sup>th</sup> child to receive one at the Royal Eye and Ear Hospital. The Hospital told Biotech Daily that the event was attended by the Cochlear ear implant inventor Prof Graeme Clark, along with representatives from the Hospital board and executive, the University of Melbourne, the Hearing co-operative research centre (CRC), Cochlear and the Bionics Institute, as well as former and current staff and patients. Cochlear fell \$1.48 or 0.97 percent to \$150.89 with 140,378 shares traded.

### TBG DIAGNOSTICS

TBG says its Exprobe SE human leukocyte antigen typing kit has received Conformité Européenne (CE) mark and Taiwan Food and Drug Administration approvals. TBG said the Exprobe, for immune matching of bone marrow, cord blood and solid organ transplants, was developed on the real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) platform. The company said the test took less than 80 minutes from purified DNA to clinical report and was "one of the fastest molecular human leukocyte antigen testing products available".

TBG said that the test was the first to receive CE-mark as well as Taiwan clearance for a real-time PCR test with five human leukocyte antigen (HLA) loci in a single 96-well tray and in addition to transplantation and transfusion, new roles for HLA typing had been discovered in drug hypersensitivity and other auto-immune diseases and with the new product molecular HLA testing was easy for any laboratory to adopt and perform. TBG said it had been selling its real-time products as research use only but the approvals meant they could be used more broadly.

The company said that the Exprobe kit had been manufactured in Taiwan, but would begin manufacturing at its facility in Xiamen, China.

TBG was untraded at 13.5 cents.

## ADALTA, LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

Adalta says a \$427,000 Science and Industry Endowment Fund business fellowship for Dr Chris Hosking will strengthen its collaboration with La Trobe University.

Adalta said that \$210,000 of the fellowship would be paid by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation.

The company said that the Federal Government program intended "to build deeper connections and collaborations between researchers and industry, accelerate the adoption of new ideas and technology while also helping businesses to grow into larger and more profitable organisations ... [and] provides practical industry experience for early career researches".

Adalta chief executive officer Sam Cobb said the fellowship provided non-dilutive funding to facilitate further development of the company's I-body, or intermediate group of immunoglobulin or immunoglobulin-like domains, pipeline.

The company said that the fellowship would support Dr Hosking's work with its chief scientific officer Prof Mick Foley at the La Trobe Institute for Molecular Science, to identify potential new clinical candidates from its I-body library.

Prof Foley said the grant would be used "to screen the I-body library to identify and develop new I-body candidates against difficult to access drug targets such as complex signalling proteins called [G-protein-coupled receptors]".

Adalta was unchanged at 22.5 cents.

## <u>EPAT</u>

Epat says it received EU and Australian approvals for its pain recognition software at 3.20pm on July 18, 2017 and informed The Australian newspaper before the ASX. In an 'aware query' the ASX asked Epat about the timing of the receipt of the Conformité Européenne (CE) mark and Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration inclusion on the Australian Register of Regulatory Goods and the publication of an article on the approvals in The Australian newspaper.

Epat said it received both approvals at 3.20pm on July 18, 2017 and then sought the necessary confirmations and appropriate wording from its regulatory consultant to finalize the ASX announcement among the board and company secretary and the announcement was finalized and approved for release to market by about 5pm on July 18, 2017.

"However there was a miscommunication of the timing of this between the CEO [Philip Daffas] and the company secretary which could not be immediately addressed due to the CEO then travelling between Sydney and Perth," Epat said.

"This led to announcement being delayed until 8.30am on July 19, 2017," Epat said.

"On the assumption that the announcement had been released to the market by 5pm, the Australian newspaper was briefed on the announcement by the company's contract public relations consultant [and] this article appeared on the morning of July 19, 2017. Biotech Daily received an email from the contract public relations consultant about 9am on July 19, 2017.

Epat said that it "made the announcement to the market as soon as practical" and because the ASX was closed at 4pm on July 18 no trading was possible during the period that the announcement was made on the ASX.

"From our observation, there were no exceptional volume of trading or share price movement on Tuesday July 18," Epat said.

On July 19, Epat climbed 0.7 cents or 25 percent to 3.5 cents with 179.8 million shares traded.

Today, Epat climbed a further 0.8 cents or 23.5 percent to 4.2 cents with 41.0 million shares traded.

#### **BIONOMICS**

Bionomics says its US listing under the code BNOEF has been added to the over-thecounter quality exchange OTCQX composite and international indices.

Bionomics said that the OTCQX was the top tier of three markets for over-the-counter securities operated by the OTC Markets Group and composite index was "designed as a benchmark for tracking the overall performance of the OTCQX market".

The company said the index was market capitalization-weighted and adjusted quarterly using an index based on the aggregate of last sale price by outstanding share quantity. Bionomics said that trading on the OTCQX market and inclusion in the indices might increase overseas trade and shareholdings in its shares.

Bionomics was up one cent or 2.2 percent to 46 cents.

#### PHYLOGICA

Phylogica has told the ASX that it is not aware of any information it has not announced which, if known, could explain recent trading in its securities.

The ASX said the company's share price rose 28.6 percent from 4.2 cents on July 17 to 5.4 cents today, July 24, 2017 and noted a significant increase in trading volume. Phylogica fell 0.4 cents or 8.2 percent to 4.5 cents with 27.9 million shares traded.

## NOVITA HEALTHCARE (FORMERLY AVEXA)

Novita says it has completed its acquisition of Newly Pty Ltd for its "online market-place connecting care and support professionals with people and organisations in need". Earlier this month, Novita said it had raised \$2.5 million in a placement at three cents a share and hoped to raise a further \$1 million in a rights issue and would pay Newly \$1.0 million in shares upfront and a deferred cash earn-out of four times profit before tax for the 12 months to December 31, 2019 (BD: Jul 12, 2017).

The company said at that time that Newly was "an innovative and scalable technology platform that provides an enhanced recruitment solution for the aged [and] community and disability care sector ... [and had] one of the largest database of carers in Australia, and has established relationships with major care providers nationally".

Novita said it could potentially extend the application of Newly's technology across the broader community care spectrum to provide services complementary to its Tali training system for diagnosing and treating developmental disabilities, including autism (BD: Oct 12, 2015).

Late on Friday July 21, 2017, Novita said it had completed the acquisition, issuing 30,689,095 shares worth \$920,673 to the Newly vendors, subject to an 18-month escrow period from the date of issue, along with a deferred earn-out payment of four times the profit before tax for the year to December 31, 2019, to be paid in cash on March 1, 2020. Novita was up 0.2 cents or 6.7 percent to 3.2 cents.

#### **BIOTECH CAPITAL**

Biotech Capital says it has begun trading under the name BTC Health from today and will seek shareholder approval for the name change.

Biotech Capital said it had registered the name with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission and applied for an Australian trademark to IP (Intellectual Property) Australia.

Biotech Capital was up half a cent or 3.1 percent to 16.5 cents