



# Biotech Daily

Monday March 26, 2018

*Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies*

- \* **ASX DOWN, BIOTECH EVEN: ACTINOGEN UP 6%; PRANA DOWN 4%**
- \* **FEDERAL \$2m FOR FLOREY RESEARCH INTO EPILEPSY**
- \* **TELEX FILES PROSTATE IMAGING MASTER FILE**
- \* **ALCIDION SMARTPAGE 'GOES LIVE' AT MONASH HEALTH**
- \* **ANTEO, 'MAJOR BATTERY USER' SIGN CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT**
- \* **ORTHOCELL APPOINTS PROF GIUSEPPE LUONGO ADVISOR**
- \* **SIENNA APPOINTS HELEN FISHER DIRECTOR**
- \* **CELLMID APPOINTS DENNIS ECK DIRECTOR**
- \* **QRX APPOINTS ANTHONY JEFFERIES DIRECTOR**

## MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 0.52 percent on Monday March 26, 2018, with the ASX200 down 30.2 points to 5,790.5 points.

Thirteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 13 fell, 10 traded unchanged and four were untraded.

Actinogen was the best, up 0.3 cents or 6.4 percent to five cents with 835,813 shares traded.

Admedus climbed 5.2 percent; Dimerix improved four percent; Oncosil and Pharmaxis were up more than three percent; Bionomics, Factor Therapeutics, Genetic Signatures, Mesoblast and Neuren rose two percent or more; Medical Developments and Opthea were up more than one percent; with Cochlear, Pro Medicus and Resmed up by less than one percent.

Prana led the falls, down 0.2 cents or 4.1 percent to 4.7 cents with 352,000 shares traded.

Compumedics and Polynovo lost more than three percent; Benitec and Clinuvel shed more than two percent; CSL, Orthocell, Reva, Starpharma and Volpara were down more than one percent; with Ellex, Impedimed, Sirtex and Telex down by less than one percent.

## FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

### FLOREY INSTITUTE OF NEUROSCIENCE AND MENTAL HEALTH

The Federal Government says it will provide \$2 million for research led by the Florey Institute to help find a cure for rare genetic epilepsy disorders.

In a media release, Federal Health Minister Greg Hunt said that epilepsy was a chronic disorder of the brain that affected people of all ages, with about 250,000 Australians living with the condition.

Mr Hunt said that the funding would support researchers to investigate genetic and other causes of epilepsy including the mutation of the synaptic Ras guanosine triphosphatase activating protein 1 (Syngap) gene, a rare neurological condition which could lead to epilepsy.

Mr Hunt said the Syngap-1 project would be the first project undertaken by the Australian Epilepsy Research Fund and would be led by researchers from the Florey Institute.

Mr Hunt said that the Australian Epilepsy Research Fund was established by the Epilepsy Foundation to provide Australians living with genetic and other types of epilepsy hope for the future through medical research.

“It is my hope that this funding contributes to a medical breakthrough that will improve the lives of people living with this condition,” Mr Hunt said.

The media release said that since 2013 the Government had invested more than \$58 million for epilepsy research through the National Health and Medical Research Council.

## TELEX PHARMACEUTICALS

Telex says it has submitted a drug master file for a sterile kit used in the preparation of 68Ga-PSMA-11 for prostate imaging to the US Food and Drug Administration.

Telex said that 68 Gallium-labeled prostate-specific membrane antigen 11 (68Ga-PSMA-11) kit had been validated for use with all major vendors of 68Ga generators, including Eckert & Ziegler, ITM and IRE Elit, and was expected to be commercially available by mid-2018, subject to FDA review of the manufacturing package.

The company said that the drug master file was held by Kyzeo Imaging LLC, a joint-venture company between Telex and the Liege, Belgium-based Advanced Nuclear Medicine Ingredients (ANMI) SA.

Telex US president Dr Bernard Lambert said the drug master file submission was “an important step” towards a commercial prostate-specific membrane antigen prostate imaging product for the US “and we are the first to have achieved this accomplishment in collaboration with our partner ANMI”.

“There is considerable demand for effective prostate imaging in the United States and we already have several leading cancer hospitals preparing to use the PSMA kit,” Dr Lambert said.

“We’d also like to acknowledge the excellent work of our colleagues at Nukemed and the team at Indiana University, who worked tirelessly over the past six months to complete the validation work,” Dr Lambert said.

Telex said that prostate cancer was the number one cancer killer in the US, with about 160,000 new cases each year and three million men living with prostate cancer.

The company said there was a major unmet need to better diagnose and stage men with prostate cancer, from initial diagnosis to therapeutic monitoring.

Telex said the prostate imaging market in the US was estimated to be \$US500 million, likely to be dominated by the use of positron emission tomography (PET) and imaging agents targeting prostate-specific membrane antigen (PSMA) in particular.

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

## ALCIDION GROUP

Alcidion says the clinical module of its Smartpage hospital messaging system has been deployed at Melbourne's Monash Health.

Alcidion said that the installation of Smartpage at the Monash Medical Centre and Monash Children's Hospital was part of a \$389,000 three-year contract, to improve after-hours staff communication and task management using smartphones.

The company said that the after-hours mobile task management system "went live" at the Monash Medical Centre and Monash Children's Hospital on March 13, "with the installation running smoothly and completed on time and on budget".

Alcidion said that the roll-out to the remainder of the Monash Health public hospitals was planned within the coming year.

The company said that Smartpage would provide Monash with out-of-hours clinical task management that delivered two-way instant communications between clinical staff to increase productivity and improve patient care.

Alcidion said that Smartpage was helping Monash staff provide patient care in the night and weekend hours, when staff levels were reduced but patient occupancy remained the same as peak operating hours.

Alcidion chief executive officer Ray Blight said that "as one of our first installations of this technology in an Australian public hospital setting we are delighted that the teams have worked together to deliver a seamless transition that is already adding value".

The company said that Monash Health serviced about 1.4 million people through public hospitals, including Monash Medical Centre, Monash Children's Hospital, Dandenong Hospital and Casey Hospital.

Alcidion said that Monash had the option to apply two additional one-year extensions, bringing the potential total contract value to \$500,000.

Alcidion fell 0.2 cents or 4.9 percent to 3.9 cents.

## ANTEO DIAGNOSTICS

Anteo says a confidentiality agreement with a "major battery end-user" will require completing battery test work to quantify the benefit of Antecoat.

Anteo said that a battery conference in Japan forecast a seven-fold increase in lithium-ion battery production output in the next eight years driven by "an exponential increase in electric vehicle sales".

The company said that the key challenges were expected to be lowering the battery cost, increasing energy density, improving safety and faster charging capabilities.

Anteo said that to achieve the required improvements in energy density, high capacity anodes and cathodes had to be developed and there was "a considerable focus on the development of high capacity silicon anodes in the lithium-ion battery market".

The company said it would focus on areas where its Antecoat could improve battery performance, including the cycle life and first cycle efficiencies of silicon anodes, particle dispersion in silicon anodes and improved adhesion between materials and interfaces within battery cells.

Anteo was previously focussed on its Mix&Go molecular glue for adhering proteins and antibodies to surfaces including Agar plates.

Last year, the company said it would develop its nano-coating technology for lithium batteries (BD: Oct 18, Dec 19, 2017).

Anteo was up 0.2 cents or 14.3 percent to 1.6 cents with 17.7 million shares traded.

## ORTHOCELL

Orthocell says it has appointed Prof Giuseppe Luongo to its medical and scientific advisory board “to drive Celgro into the European market”.

Orthocell said Prof Luongo was a “recognized expert in maxillofacial surgery”, had published numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals, was the editor of the oral health section of Doctor Life and co-editor of the Biomed Central Oral Health digital section.

Orthocell said that Prof Luongo was an adjunct professor at the Naples, Italy-based the University Federico II School of Maxillofacial Surgery and was a founding member of the Italian Academy of Osseointegration.

Last week, Orthocell appointed Dr Massimo Simion to the advisory board and today said that each would be issued 250,000 unlisted options, exercisable at 34 cents within three years (BD: Oct 19, 2018).

Orthocell fell half a cent or 1.6 percent to 31 cents.

## SIENNA CANCER DIAGNOSTICS

Sienna says it has appointed Helen Fisher as an independent non-executive director, effective from March 28, 2018.

Sienna chairman Dr Geoff Cumming said Ms Fisher had accounting and tax expertise, as well as knowledge of the life sciences industry and the investment community.

The company said that Ms Fisher was previously a partner at Deloitte for 10 years and in July 2017, Ms Fisher established the Bio Capital Impact Fund, “investing in disruptive, high-growth life science and biotechnology companies” and had advised on the tax management of intellectual property, mergers and acquisition and product licencing.

Sienna was up 0.6 cents or 6.1 percent to 10.5 cents.

## CELLMID

Cellmid says it has appointed Dennis Eck as a non-executive director.

Cellmid said that Mr Eck was a professional investor with 40 years’ experience in retail management, leading the strategic direction of companies such as American Stores, Vons and Ulta in the US and Coles Myer in Australia, and had experience from fashion to groceries, cosmetics and hair salons.

Cellmid chairman David King said that Mr Eck would provide “valuable input regarding our product and distribution strategy for Évolis”.

The company said that in December 2017 Mr Eck bought 2,700,000 shares through a private placement.

Cellmid was unchanged at 46.5 cents.

## QRX PHARMA

QRX says it has appointed Anthony Jefferies as a director, effective from March 23, 2018.

QRX said that Mr Jefferies was a partner at the Sydney-based Gillis Delaney law firm.

QRX was untraded at 2.8 cents.