



# Biotech Daily

Monday June 18, 2018

*Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies*

- \* **ASX UP, BIOTECH DOWN: IMPEDIMED UP 15%; LBT DOWN 11%**
- \* **TELIX CONSORTIUM WINS \$1m BIO-MANUFACTURING GRANT**
- \* **CYNATA, UNI OF NSW WORK ON CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE**
- \* **PROTEOMICS LICENCES PROMARKERD TO PATIA FOR MEXICO**
- \* **CANADA GRANTS SUDA SILDENAFIL PRODUCTS PATENT**
- \* **JAMES MIRAMS, PARADIGM WEALTH TAKE 5% OF SIENNA**
- \* **TIM ROBERTSON, FARJOY TAKE 6% OF NUHEARA**
- \* **BOTANIX REQUESTS 'CAPITAL RAISING' TRADING HALT**

## MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.17 percent on Monday June 18, 2018 with the ASX200 up 10.1 points to 6,104.1 points.

Eleven of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 19 fell, nine traded unchanged and one was untraded.

Impedimed was the best on no news, up six cents or 15.4 percent to 45 cents with 1.7 million shares traded.

Ellex climbed eight percent; Airxpanders improved 4.35 percent; Cyclopharm, Nanosonics, Opthea and Prana rose two percent or more; Compumedics, CSL, Medical Developments and Pro Medicus were up more than one percent; with Cochlear and Sirtex up by less than one percent.

LBT led the falls, down 1.2 cents or 10.9 percent to 9.8 cents with 557,980 shares traded, followed by Optiscan down 10.1 percent to 7.1 cents with 909,800 shares traded.

Benitec lost 7.1 percent; ITL shed six percent; Immutep retreated 5.6 percent; Reva fell 4.2 percent; Actinogen and Uscom were down more than three percent; Cynata, Factor Therapeutics, Oncosil and Orthocell shed more than two percent; Admedus, Avita, Neuren, Polynovo, Resmed, Telix and Volpara were down more than one percent; with Mesoblast down 0.3 percent.

## TELIX PHARMACEUTICALS

Telix says that a consortium of industry collaborators has won a \$1.1 million Federal grant to establish a bio-pharmaceutical manufacturing facility in Melbourne.

Telix said that the industry consortium included the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, Monash University, GE Health and ThermoFisher.

The company said that the Federal Science and Industry Endowment Fund grant was part of a larger funding package of about \$5.5 million, including existing funding commitments from the CSIRO and the Federally-funded MTP Connect.

Telix said the consortium would establish a pilot-scale good manufacturing practice (GMP) facility to manufacture biologics, by expanding the protein production facility platform at CSIRO's Clayton campus, adjacent to Monash University.

Telix chief executive officer Dr Christian Behrenbruch said that small and medium-sized companies like Telix "invest millions of dollars overseas each year running GMP manufacturing campaigns to support phase I and phase II programs ... [and more than] \$100 million of annual expenditure from the Australian bioscience ecosystem could be invested domestically with the availability of appropriate infrastructure".

"For companies like Telix, this capability will have [a] profound impact on the cost and speed of developing new biologic drugs," Dr Behrenbruch said.

CSIRO manufacturing director Dr Keith McLean said that Australia had "a number of rapidly growing small biotechnology companies, like Telix, that need access to clinical-grade protein production that is phase-appropriate to their development needs".

"We see this capability as [a] key missing piece in the Australian biotechnology ecosystem that is well-aligned with the country's advanced manufacturing agenda," Dr McLean said.

Telix fell one cent or 1.5 percent to 65 cents.

## CYNATA THERAPEUTICS

Cynata says it will collaborate with the University of New South Wales to develop mesenchymal stem cell therapies for coronary artery disease.

Cynata said that coronary artery disease involved the narrowing of coronary arteries, that feed blood to the heart, due to a build-up of fatty deposits, or plaque, also known as atherosclerosis, which reduced blood flow to the heart.

The company said the University would develop methods for activating its Cymerus mesenchymal stem cells manufacturing technology "using novel cell culture materials, with the goal of enhancing their potential to stimulate new blood vessel formation [or] angiogenesis and improve blood supply to the heart".

The company said the research would be led by the University's Dr Kristopher Kilian, with the two entities equally sharing the costs of the initial preclinical research and product development, with both parties providing in-kind and matching cash contributions and the University would fund the project as part of its Science Industry Network Seed Fund 2018.

Dr Kilian said the use of "designer cell culture materials to customize the therapeutic properties of [mesenchymal stem cells] holds great promise for specialised medical applications, including the treatment of [coronary artery disease], which is the cause of most heart attacks and roughly one-third of all deaths in people over the age of 35 [years] in developed countries".

Cynata head of product development Dr Kilian Kelly said the collaboration would develop "customized [mesenchymal stem cells] that address [coronary artery disease] before a heart attack occurs, which complements our ongoing preclinical research program evaluating Cymerus [mesenchymal stem cells] as a treatment for heart attack".

Cynata fell four cents or 2.9 percent to \$1.325.

## PROTEOMICS INTERNATIONAL LABORATORIES

Proteomics says it the Mexico City, Mexico-based Patia Biopharma has licenced its Promarkerd predictive blood test for diabetic kidney disease.

Proteomics said that Patia was “focused on promoting personalized preventive medicine across Latin America”.

The company said that the licence deal was brokered by philanthropic organisation the Carlos Slim Foundation and the Promarkerd test would be launched in Mexico, diabetes was responsible for one in seven deaths, killing more people than cancer.

Proteomics said that Mexico had one of the highest rates of diabetes in the world, with 13 million adults suffering from the condition.

The company said that the test would be commercially available to private hospitals, private clinics, government hospitals and Carlos Slim Foundation programs.

Proteomics said that the exclusive, multi-year, royalty-based licence would see Patia develop and commercialize the Promarkerd mass spectrometry laboratory-developed test through its network of laboratories in Mexico, with all testing to be in association with Patia's partner, Clinica Ruiz Laboratories.

The company said that the laboratory-developed test (LDT) permitted “fast adoption of a new test in advanced markets” with first sales expected in four to six months.

Patia chief executive officer Dr Laureano Simon said the “predictive test will let us intervene early and prescribe treatments to prevent the disease, and help reverse the growing impact of diabetes on public health in Mexico”.

Proteomics chief executive officer Dr Richard Lipscombe said it the agreement was “another important milestone in the roll-out of Promarkerd globally”.

Proteomics said it was the third licencing agreement for Promarkerd following the US partnership with Prismhealthdx and the Omics and Macrotech Dominican Republic launch (BD: Nov 17, 2017; Mar 7, May 28, 2018).

Proteomics was up three cents or 16.7 percent to 21 cents.

## SUDA PHARMACEUTICALS

Suda says that Canada has granted a patent covering SUD-003 for erectile dysfunction and SUD-004 for pulmonary arterial hypertension.

Suda said that the Canadian Intellectual Property Office had granted its first application for its sildenafil-based products, titled ‘Oral Spray Formulations and Methods for Administration of Sildenafil’.

The company said it had similar patents granted in the US, Japan, Russia, Australia, New Zealand and Singapore, and applications pending in other jurisdictions.

Suda said that the patents provided protection until December 2032.

The company said the claims covered the administration of sildenafil, the active pharmaceutical ingredient in SUD-003 and SUD-004, through an oral spray for the treatment of sexual dysfunction induced by selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) anti-depressants and for the treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension.

Suda said that sildenafil was the active drug in Pfizer’s Viagra for erectile dysfunction and Revatio for pulmonary arterial hypertension, the global erectile dysfunction drugs market was expected to reach \$US3.4 billion in 2019, and erectile dysfunction affected about 150 million men worldwide and about 50 percent of men aged over 40 years.

The company said that pulmonary arterial hypertension affected blood pressure and occurred at all ages, with the incidence increasing with age and more common among women and people over 75 years of age and often linked to heart failure.

Suda was up 0.1 cents or 11.1 percent to one cent with 2.1 million shares traded.

### [SIENNA CANCER DIAGNOSTICS](#)

Melbourne's Paradigm Wealth Management says it has become a substantial shareholder in Sienna with 9,105,829 shares or 5.05 percent.

The substantial shareholder notice, signed by Paradigm director James Mirams said the "relevant interest [was] through managed discretionary account service for clients of Investment Administration Service Pty Ltd" and the company was one of the investment managers appointed by Investment Administration Service, with the registered holder HSBC Custody Nominees.

Paradigm said that the shares were bought between August 3, 2017 and June 13, 2018 at prices ranging from eight cents to 20 cents.

Sienna was untraded at 7.7 cents.

### [NUHEARA](#)

The Sydney-based Farjoy Pty Ltd says it has become a substantial shareholder in Nuheara with 47,105,264 shares or 5.28% percent.

The substantial shareholder notice, signed by managing-director Timothy Frank Robertson, said that the shares were acquired between May 8 and June 15, 2018 with 42,105,264 shares bought for \$4,000,000 in the recent placement at 9.5 cents a share which raised \$6 million (BD: Jun 8, 2015).

Nuheara was unchanged at 11 cents with 3.1 million shares traded.

### [BOTANIX](#)

Botanix has requested a trading halt pending "an announcement regarding a capital raising".

Trading will resume on June 20, 2018 or on an earlier announcement.

Botanix last traded at 12 cents.