



# Biotech Daily

Monday February 11, 2019

*Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies*

- \* **ASX DOWN, BIOTECH UP: AIRXPANDERS UP 9%; IMPEDIMED DOWN 6%**
- \* **ACTINOGEN BEGINS XANAMEM DOSE ESCALATION TRIAL**
- \* **INVITROCUE, DR CHEN J-V FOR IMMUNE MICE, CELLS**
- \* **UNIVERSAL BIOSENSORS, SIEMENS 'MODIFY RELATIONSHIP'**
- \* **BEAGLES BACK PHARMAUST NEW MONEPANTEL TASTE**
- \* **TOTAL BRAIN, MAPMYGENOME PARTNER FOR 'BRAIN OPTIMIZATION'**
- \* **CAPITAL GROUP REDUCES TO 8% OF MESOBLAST**
- \* **STARFISH BELOW 5% IN IMPEDIMED**
- \* **FIL REDUCES TO 8.5% OF ADHERIUM**
- \* **PHYLOGICA LOSES SAHM NASSERI**

## MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 0.18 percent on Monday February 11, 2019, with the ASX200 down 10.7 points to 6,060.8 points. Eighteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 11 fell, seven traded unchanged and four were untraded. All three Big Caps fell.

Airxpanders was the best for the second trading day in a row, up 0.3 cents or 9.1 percent to 3.6 cents with 3.3 million shares traded.

Orthocell climbed 7.1 percent; Immutep and Proteomics improved more than six percent; both Imugene and Kazia were up 5.9 percent; Universal Biosensors rose 4.35 percent; Avita and Genetic Signatures were up more than three percent; Cynata and Pro Medicus rose more than two percent; Actinogen, Ellex and Medical Developments were up one percent or more; with Clinuvel, Mesoblast, Nanosonics and Polynovo up by less than one percent.

Impedimed led the falls, down 1.5 cents or six percent to 23.5 cents, with 559,415 shares traded. Cyclopharm fell 4.8 percent; Paradigm and Patrys lost more than three percent; Antisense and Prescient shed more than two percent; CSL, LBT and Neuren were down more than one percent; with Cochlear, Resmed, Starpharma, Telix and Volpara down by less than one percent.

## ACTINOGEN MEDICAL

Actinogen says it has dosed the first patient of up to 84 patients in a 12-week study of 20mg or 30mg of Xanamem in healthy elderly volunteers.

Actinogen said its higher dosage Xanahes study would begin with a cohort of 42 participants receiving 20mg of Xanamem or a placebo, and pending a safety review, a second cohort of 42 subjects would receive 30mg of Xanamem or a placebo.

The company said it expected results from the first Xanahes cohort by July 2019, about the same time that it expected the results from its 186-patient phase II Xanadu trial of Xanamem for Alzheimer's disease (BD: Nov 26, 2018).

Actinogen chief executive officer Dr Bill Ketelbey told Biotech Daily that the Xanadu study used 10mg doses of Xanamem.

In a media release, Dr Ketelbey said that dosing the first Xanahes study patient was "yet another important milestone in the development of Xanamem".

"This study will allow us to potentially explore higher doses of Xanamem in future studies in Alzheimer's disease and other indications, should this be considered necessary," Dr Ketelbey said. "The nine additional studies initiated over the past few months will ... enhance the Xanamem data-set and help inform the optimum way forward with the development of Xanamem" and provide important catalysts for the business over the next six to 12 months.

Actinogen was up 0.1 cents or 1.7 percent to 5.9 cents with 2.1 million shares traded.

## INVITROCUE

Invitrocue says it has a joint venture with Singapore's Dr Chen Quingfeng to provide humanized immune system mice and cell products for research.

Invitrocue said it would hold 70 percent of the Invivocue joint venture and Dr Chen, who worked for the Singapore Government Agency for Science, Technology and Research (ASTAR) would hold 30 percent of the joint venture.

The company said it would "supply humanized immune system mice and cell products to research institutions, pharmaceutical, clinical research and biotechnology companies".

Invitrocue said that Invivocue would offer "mice with a stable and functional human immune system, Himice, as well as immunodeficient mice, Niko, and its related organ-specific immune cells for both in-vivo and in-vitro studies".

The company said that additional services would include immune-related toxicity and drug efficacy assessments for immune-therapeutic drug development.

Invitrocue was unchanged at seven cents.

## UNIVERSAL BIOSENSORS

Universal Biosensors says it has a term sheet with Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics "regarding possible modifications to their commercial relationship".

Universal Biosensors said it had agreed that it would "not make dividend payments or similar distributions or engage in [merger and acquisition] transactions" subject to an exception which would allow [it] to enter into [merger and or acquisition] transactions where the directors determine, in good faith, that not proceeding with such a transaction would be inconsistent with its fiduciary duties".

The company said it had suspended obligations to apply commercially reasonable efforts and reasonably necessary resources to certain research and development activities under the agreement and the parties would not initiate arbitration against one another.

Universal Biosensors was up one cent or 4.35 percent to 24 cents.

## PHARMAUST

Pharmaust says a taste-masking program for its monepantel tablet for cancer has been successful in healthy beagle dogs.

Pharmaust said it previously had difficulty administering monepantel due to a bad taste and the trial was put on hold (BD: Jul 11, 2016; Sep 20, 2017; May 28, Oct 15, 2018).

Today, the company said the beagles were given both coated and uncoated tablets either from the administrator's hands or from the floor and "readily took both coated and uncoated tablets, voluntarily, either from the administrator's hands or from the floor".

Pharmaust said it had chosen to use uncoated tablets for the trial.

Pharmaust was unchanged at 4.6 cents.

## TOTAL BRAIN

Total Brain says it has partnered with Mapmygenome to offer three-month trials of its "brain optimization platform".

Total Brain said users would be able to assess their "12 brain capacities and screen for risk of mental conditions", alongside Mapmygenome's Genomepath, looking at genomic health risks and users would also have access to "brain training".

Total Brain was untraded at 3.7 cents.

## MESOBLAST

The Capital Group says it has reduced its holding in Mesoblast from equivalent to 44,855,080 shares (9.48%) to the equivalent to 39,627,450 shares (7.95%).

In its previous notice, the Los Angeles, California-based Capital Group said it had increased its substantial holding in Mesoblast from 25,488,187 shares (7.856%) to equivalent to 42,591,080 shares (9.0%), which appeared to include American depository receipts separate from Australian shares (BD: Mar 9, 2018).

Today, the Capital Group said that it had reduced from 42,591,080 shares (8.99%) to 37,605,700 shares (7.54%), as well as reducing from 452,800 ADRs (0.4784%) to 404,350 ADRs (0.4055%).

Today's notice implied that the company had reduced from the equivalent to 44,855,080 shares (9.48%) to the equivalent to 39,627,450 shares (7.95%).

Capital Group said that between March 8, 2018 and February 7, 2019 it sold 2,721,380 shares for an average price of \$1.215 and sold 48,450 ADRs, equivalent to 242,250 shares for \$US8.00 per ADR (\$A2.25 per share), the original purchase price.

Mesoblast was up one cent or 0.9 percent to \$1.175.

## IMPEDIMED

Melbourne's Starfish Ventures says it has reduced its shareholding in Impedimed from 25,238,045 shares (6.77%) to below the five percent substantial level.

The substantial shareholder notice, signed by director Michael Panaccio, said that between August 28, 2018 and February 8, 2019 it sold shares at prices ranging from 22 cents a share to 52 cents a share, with a single largest sale of 3,000,000 shares at 22 cents a share on February 8, 2019.

Impedimed fell 1.5 cents or six percent to 23.5 cents.

## ADHERIUM

FIL Limited says it has reduced its holding in Adherium from 16,726,595 shares (10.00%) to 14,745,815 shares (8.46%).

FIL said that between March 9, 2017 and February 6, 2019 it bought 2,313,228 shares for prices ranging from 8.7 cents a share to 24 cents a share and sold 4,294,008 shares for prices ranging from 2.2 cents a share to 12 cents a share.

Adherium fell 0.1 cents or 4.35 percent to 2.2 cents with 1.4 million shares traded.

## PHYLOGICA

Phylogica advises that 16-month non-executive director Sahm Nasseri has resigned from its board.

The company said that Mr Nasseri joined the board in 2017 and “played an important role in bringing commercial focus to the company’s operations” (BD: Oct 24, 2017).

Phylogica chief executive officer Dr Rohan Hockings said that Mr Nasseri’s had “made a significant impact towards a higher performing company during his tenure and we are sorry to see him go”.

Phylogica fell 0.2 cents or 6.7 percent to 2.8 cents.