



Biotech Daily

Wednesday April 10, 2019

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX FLAT, BIOTECH DOWN: VOLPARA UP 12%; AVITA DOWN 30%**
- * **ADMEDUS PLEADS SCHULTZ, VACCINE SALE TO ASX 109% QUERY**
- * **ACTINOGEN INVESTIGATES XANAMEM FOR MOOD DISORDERS**
- * **NOXOPHARM PLANS NOX66, DOXORUBICIN SARCOMA TRIAL**
- * **TOTAL BRAIN RIGHTS RAISE \$897k OF HOPED-FOR \$1.9m; \$963k TO GO**
- * **CHRIS RETZOS INCREASES, DILUTED TO 6% OF PRESCIENT**
- * **CLARITY APPOINTS ADVISOR DR GILLIES O'BRYAN-TEAR DIRECTOR**
- * **FACTOR APPOINTS DR DAVID BROOKES DIRECTOR**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market edged up 0.03 percent on Wednesday April 10, 2019, with the ASX200 up 1.7 points to 6,223.5 points.

Eleven of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 16 fell, 10 traded unchanged and three were untraded. All three Big Caps fell.

Volpara was the best, up 20 cents or 11.8 percent to \$1.89, with 1.7 million shares traded.

Polynovo climbed 6.8 percent; Pro Medicus was up 5.2 percent; Medical Developments improved 4.8 percent; Benitec and Osprey were up more than three percent; Antisense rose 2.5 percent; Dimerix, Nanosonics and Starpharma were up more than one percent; with Opthea up 0.7 percent.

This week's 44.6 percent best, Avita, climbed from 32.5 cents to 46 cents, but today led the falls, down 14 cents or 29.8 percent to 33 cents, with 50.1 million shares traded.

Immutep and Proteomics lost more than six percent; Genetic Signatures, Immutep and Oncosil fell more than five percent; Ellex and Prana retreated four percent or more; Benitec, Telix was down 3.5 percent; Paradigm and Uscom shed more than two percent; LBT, Neuren and Pharmaxis were down more than one percent; with Clinuvel, Cochlear, CSL, Cynata and Resmed down by less than one percent.

ADMEDUS

Admedus 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 109.3 percent from 4.3 cents on March 29 to 9.0 cents today April 10, 2019, and noted a "significant increase" in the trading volume. Admedus told the ASX that it did not consider the sale of its vaccines business on March 22, 2019 to be price sensitive, as it had been previously foreshadowed and was subject to conditions.

The company said that "following feedback from ASX on its draft notice of annual general meeting, it has today announced the signing of a share sale agreement in relation to Admedus Vaccines".

Admedus also referred to a newspaper article published on April 8, 2019 linking the progress on its transcatheter aortic valve replacement to speculation regarding recent cardiac surgery performed on Rolling Stones co-founder Mick Jagger as potentially raising "broader awareness" of the company and its products.

Last year, Admedus said the Hong Kong investment company Star Bright Holding intended to take 60 percent of Admedus Vaccines, formerly known as Coridon, for \$18 million, with a non-refundable break-fee of \$500,000 for a six-month exclusivity period to finalize the terms of the agreement, with Admedus to retain 29.1 percent of the Star Bright majority-owned vaccines business, and chief executive officer Wayne Paterson to be chairman of the venture for five years (BD: Apr 27, Jun 27, 2018).

At that time, Admedus said Admedus Vaccines was developing DNA vaccines for the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases and cancers, including Epstein-Barr virus, or glandular fever, with research led by Gardasil inventor and head of the Brisbane-based Translational Research Institute Prof Ian Frazer.

Today, Admedus said that wholly-owned subsidiary Admedus Investments entered into a share sale agreement dated March 22, 2019 for Constellation Therapeutics to acquire Admedus Vaccines, subject to conditions.

The company said that following the transaction Admedus Vaccines would be a wholly-owned subsidiary of Constellation, with Admedus holding 29.13 percent and other Admedus Vaccines shareholders holding 10.8 percent of Constellation.

Admedus said that Sun Bright Holdings Hong Kong Industrial was an associated entity of Hong Kong's Star Bright Holding and would hold 60 percent of Constellation.

The company said that Star Bright and related entities owned 22.5 percent of Admedus.

Admedus said that Sun Bright would contribute up to \$18 million to Admedus Vaccines until November 2022 to meet ongoing funding requirements, with Prof Frazer to be appointed as a consultant to oversee the vaccine and immunotherapies development.

The company said that conditions included consent for the change of control under the Translational Research Institute rental agreement for Admedus Vaccines, all pre-clinical information supporting the trial procedure and all data generated in the course of the trial being delivered to Constellation, Admedus shareholder approval and agreement from Sun Bright, Admedus Investments and the other existing shareholders of Admedus Vaccines.

Admedus said the agreement provided that Sun Bright must pay five instalments of \$3.6 million each linked to Constellation achieving milestones and if it fails to pay all or part of an instalment, then for each instalment not fully paid, 12 percent of its shares in Constellation would be transferred to Admedus Investments and the other existing shareholders in Admedus Vaccines.

The company said the transaction was subject to conditions, including the signing of the subscription agreement, which means it was not certain to proceed.

Admedus fell 0.2 cents or 2.7 percent to 7.3 cents with 13.2 million shares traded.

ACTINOGEN MEDICAL

Actinogen says it will look at new indications for Xanamem, including for schizophrenia and mood disorders such as depression and bipolar disorder.

Actinogen said Xanamem had the potential to treat other conditions associated with raised cortisol levels, while awaiting its phase II Xanadu Alzheimer's disease trial results expected by July 2019 (BD: Mar 26, 2019).

The company said cognitive impairment in mood disorders and schizophrenia presented a development opportunity for Xanamem.

Actinogen was unchanged at 5.3 cents with 3.1 million shares traded.

NOXOPHARM

Noxopharm says it is advancing plans for a phase Ib trial of NOX66, or Veyonda, with the chemotherapy doxorubicin for sarcomas.

Last year, Noxopharm said its 19-patient phase Ib trial of NOX66 for metastatic solid cancers had one partial response and 11 of 14 patients had stable disease with no tumor growth at three months (BD: Nov 29, 2018).

Today, the company said it was planning a phase Ib trial cancer expansion program with the Sydney-based contract research organization George Clinical combining NOX66 and doxorubicin to treat sarcomas.

Noxopharm said that in-vitro and in-vivo data supported the anti-cancer effects of idronoxil with doxorubicin for osteo-sarcoma.

The company said it expected to begin the phase Ib trial by 2020.

Noxopharm was unchanged at 38 cents.

TOTAL BRAIN (FORMERLY BRAIN RESOURCE)

Total Brain says it has raised \$896,777 of the hoped-for \$1.9 million in its rights offer at 2.8 cents a share, leaving a shortfall of 34,379,768 shares, worth \$962,634.

Total Brain said it reserved the right to place the shortfall shares within three months.

In March, the company said it hoped to raise a total of \$6.9 million, with \$3.7 million from a private placement, \$1.3 million in a conditional placement and \$1.9 million in the rights' offer at 2.8 cents a share (BD: Mar 18, 2019).

In an Appendix 3B new issue announcement, Total Brain said it had completed the \$3.7 million placement.

The company said that the funds would be used for software and product development, sales and marketing initiatives and working capital.

Total Brain was up 0.1 cents or 3.6 percent to 2.9 cents.

PRESCIENT THERAPEUTICS

The Shepparton, Victoria-based Chris Retzos says he has increased his holding in Prescient but been diluted from 14,825,000 shares (7.63%) to 15,015,352 shares (6.07%). Mr Retzos said shares were held with the Retzos Executive Superannuation Fund, the Retzos Family Superannuation Fund, Westpark Operations, Colonel West Pty Ltd, Stephen Retzos, Jaclyn Stojanovski and Melissa Martin.

Mr Retzos said he traded shares between June 28, 2017 and March 28, 2019 with the largest purchase 3,833,333 shares for \$226,167 or 5.9 cents a share; and was diluted in the March placement which raised \$9.1 million at five cents a share (BD: Mar 25, 2019).

Prescient was unchanged at 4.9 cents.

CLARITY PHARMACEUTICALS

Clarity says it has appointed advisor Dr Gillies O'Bryan-Tear as a director.

Clarity said that Dr O'Bryan-Tear was previously the chief medical officer of the Oslo, Norway-based radio-pharmaceutical company Algeta ASA and last year was appointed to Clarity's scientific advisory board (BD: Aug 23, 2018).

Clarity is a public unlisted company.

FACTOR THERAPEUTICS

Factor says it has appointed Dr David Brookes as a non-executive director.

Factor said that Dr Brookes had experience in the health and biotechnology industries and most recently was chairman of RHS, formerly Reproductive Health Science, which was acquired by Perkin Elmer in June 2018.

Dr Brookes was formerly a director of Living Cell, retired as a director from Atcor last year and this year was appointed a director of Anatara (BD: Apr 3, 2018; Jan 23, 2019).

Factor said that Dr Brookes was currently the non-executive chairman of private health services company, the Better Medical Group, and maintains roles as a clinician and a biotechnology industry consultant.

The company said that Dr Brookes held a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery from the University of Adelaide.

Factor was up 0.05 cents or 12.5 percent to 0.45 cents.