



Biotech Daily

Friday August 21, 2009

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX DOWN, BIOTECH UP: CYTOPIA UP 19%, TYRIAN DOWN 13%**
- * **BIOTECH DAILY CALL-TO-ARMS FOR FEDERAL FUNDING**
- * **TERRA ROSSA INJECTS \$1.25m INTO ACUVAX; CLOSER TO HAWAII**
- * **HEARTWARE IMPLANTS 50th HEART PUMP PATIENT**
- * **IMMURON'S 'HEAVILY OVER-SUBSCRIBED' SHARE PLAN RAISES \$1.3m**
- * **PHYLOGICA APPOINTS GAVIN REZOS INVESTOR RELATIONS ADVISOR**
- * **NEURODISCOVERY CEO DR CHRIS MOYSES RESIGNS**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market tumbled 1.99 percent on Friday August 21, 2009 with the S&P ASX 200 down 86.9 points to 4290.6 points.

Fifteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 14 fell, six traded unchanged and five were untraded.

Cytopia was best, up 1.5 cents or 18.75 percent to 9.5 cents with 52,766 shares traded, followed by Genetic Technologies up 13 percent to 6.1 cents with 16 shares traded for \$1.

Alchemia, Bionomics, Genera, Peplin and Starpharma climbed four percent or more; Clinuvel, Living Cell and Optiscan were up more than three percent; Nanosonics, Novogen and Progen rose more than two percent; Avexa and Biota were up more than one percent; with CSL up 0.85 percent.

Tyrian led the falls, down 0.3 cents or 13.0 percent to two cents with 190,000 shares traded, followed by Labtech down 11.8 percent to 15 cents and Mesoblast down 11.3 percent to \$1.02.

Compumedics lost 8.9 percent; Tissue Therapies fell 6.4 percent; Cathrx was down 5.3 percent; Chemgenex and Phosphagenics fell four percent or more; Benitec, Cellestis and Psivida were down more than three percent; Cochlear and Pharmaxis shed more than one percent; with Acrux, Resmed and Sirtex down by less than one percent.

[BIOTECH DAILY EDITORIAL: COMMONWEALTH COMMERCIALISATION INSTITUTE](#)

Earlier today, Biotech Daily sent more than 1,000 emails calling on any and all those concerned with the funding of innovative technologies to make a submission to the Federal Government on the proposed Commonwealth Commercialisation Institute.

There is one week to go to make a submission and everyone is urged to either submit the 'smart form' attached to today's 'Special Issue' email or make their own submission. Several readers have confirmed that they have already done so.

The key point with the electronic submission in the Special Issue email is that it supports the Biotech and Related Industries Leadership Group proposal, but calls for a significant increase in funding from the \$80 million a year outlined in the May 2009 Federal Budget to world's best practice, which would be more in the order of \$1 billion a year. Israel's Office of Chief Scientist provides more than \$US350 million a year and Australia has three times Israel's population.

The BRIL Group submission including its list of signatories is available at:

<http://www.biotechdaily.com.au/media/editorials/BRIL%20Group%20CCI%20Proposal.pdf>

Please pass the email and attached PDF to anyone involved in innovation and commercialization in biotechnology, information and communication technologies, new manufacturing or clean technologies. This is our best chance to attract the attention of the Federal Government to the industries of the future.

David Langsam
Editor

[ACUVAX](#)

Acuvax says it has a term sheet through subsidiary Acuvax Immunology Services with the Adelaide-based Terra Rossa Capital for \$1.25 million capital injection.

Acuvax described Terra Rossa as a "life sciences venture capital fund with significant immunology experience" and said the terms of the funding "set certain milestones for business development, including funding the rollout of certain key technologies in cooperation with Hawaii Biotech with the goal of managing the Hawaii and other technology commercialization activities through the South Australia based Acuvax Immunology Services.

Acuvax and Hawaii Biotech director Dr William Ardrey said South Australia had "core competencies in vaccine development, molecular biology and biotechnology commercialization" making it ideal for business development and commercialization activities.

Acuvax said that through its wholly owned subsidiary Acuvax Immunology Services it was in final discussions with associated company Hawaii Biotech to cooperate on a number of proprietary antigen and adjuvant technologies which have been developed in Hawaii and which could be advanced further and licenced through cooperation with Acuvax and Acuvax Immunology Services.

Acuvax said Hawaii Biotech had a number of recombinant, adjuvant and ancillary technologies in addition to lead candidate vaccines.

The company said marketing, sales, co-development and business development activities would be undertaken from South Australia.

Acuvax was untraded at 3.1 cents.

HEARTWARE

Heartware says it has implanted its 50th patient in its US bridge-to-transplant clinical trial of its left ventricular assist cardiac pump system.

Heartware said Dr O Howard Frazier performed the operation at the Texas Heart Institute. The company said a 150 patients would be enrolled at up to 28 centres with 16 centres enrolling patients.

Heartware said the primary outcome of the trial was patient survival at 180-days post surgical implantation.

Dr Frazier said the implant's inflow cannula and small size "greatly reduces the risk of serious infection" and "allows for optimal function, even in difficult cases where the myocardium is thin or the apex of the ventricle is difficult to access".

Heartware was unchanged at 83 cents.

IMMURON

Immuron says its share plan was "heavily over-subscribed" and raised \$1,301,119.

Immuron said that under ASX Rules it was limited to issuing no greater than 30 percent of the shares currently on issue and had to scale back the allotment of shares on a pro rata basis for all eligible applications received.

The company said refund cheques for excess applications would be forwarded to shareholders in the coming week.

Immuron fell 0.6 cents or 9.8 percent to 5.5 cents with 1.4 million shares traded.

PHYLOGICA

Phylogica says it has appointed Viaticus Capital, headed by Gavin Rezos, to provide international investor relations services.

Phylogica said Mr Rezos had "a strong network of institutional investors, high net worth investors, bankers and analysts in the US, Europe and the Middle East".

Most recently for Australian investors, Mr Rezos was the chief executive officer of Psivida.

At the Psivida 2007 annual general meeting incoming chief executive officer Dr Paul Ashton and chairman Dr David Mazzo faced 90 minutes of questions from investors and analysts on the decline of the company's share price to the then nine cents a share (BD: Nov 27, 2007).

Much of the decline of Psivida was blamed on the previous CEO Mr Rezos and former chairman Dr Roger Brimblecombe. The meeting was told that Mr Rezos received \$329,000 as his departure package, representing a six month consultancy.

Dr Mazzo said the new management was "digging themselves out of a hole left for them by previous management".

At the time of his resignation Psivida said Mr Rezos was the founding CEO who took the company from a \$1 million start-up to its then market capitalization of more than \$130 million (BD: Jul 31, 2006).

In today's media release, Phylogica said that Mr Rezos was formerly an HSBC investment banking director with regional positions in London, Dubai and Sydney and remained a principal of Albion Capital Partners.

Phylogica said Mr Rezos would work with corporate development vice-president Prof Paul Watt to create and develop partnerships with institutions, investors, media, government and industry in Europe and the US.

Phylogica was unchanged at 5.5 cents.

NEURODISCOVERY

Neurodiscovery chief executive officer Dr Chris Moses has resigned as a director and will resign as chief executive officer on September 20, 2009.

Neurodiscovery said Dr Moses had resigned as a director effective from August 20, 2009.

The company said Dr Moses would continue to seek funding and/or licencing agreements for the company's neurological pharmaceutical assets.

Neurodiscovery chairman Dr Mark Treherne said Dr Moses resigned "as part of the company's ongoing restructuring".

Neurodiscovery's executive director David McAuliffe told Biotech Daily that it was not the company's intention to appoint a new chief executive officer at this stage.

Mr McAuliffe said he would take on some of the responsibilities previously undertaken by Dr Moses.

Neurodiscovery was unchanged at six cents.