



Biotech Daily

Friday July 24, 2009

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX, BIOTECH UP: LIVING CELL UP 12%, CATHRX DOWN 13%**
- * **BIOSIGNAL SELLS BIOFILM IP FOR \$3.2m**
- * **FERMISCAN TRIALS BREAST CANCER TEST IN EGYPT**
- * **BIOTRON HAS TWO QUARTERS CASH, JUST**
- * **OMI EXTENDS SHARE OFFER**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.63 percent on Friday July 24, 2009 with the S&P ASX 200 up 25.7 points to 4,089.8 points.

Eighteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 11 fell, seven traded unchanged and four were untraded.

Living Cell was best up two cents or 11.8 percent to 19 cents with 274,631 shares traded, followed by Labtech up 8.8 percent to 1.8 cents.

Compumedics climbed 7.7 percent; Biota and Tyrian were up more than six percent; Prana was up 5.9 percent; Alchemia, Avexa, Bionomics and Mesoblast were up four percent or more; Nanosonics was up 3.2 percent; Cochlear and Optiscan rose more than two percent; with Acrux, Cellestis, Chemgenex, Heartware, Impedimed and Sirtex up by less than one percent.

Cathrx led the falls, down 4.5 cents or 12.9 percent to 30.5 cents with 160,000 shares traded followed by Benitec down 9.7 percent to 2.8 cents.

Cytopia lost eight percent; Progen, Psivida and Tissue Therapies were down more than five percent; Pharmaxis and Polartechinics were down more than three percent; Clinuvel and Genera shed more than two percent; CSL and Novogen were down more than one percent; with Resmed down 0.2 percent.

BIOSIGNAL

Biosignal says it will sell most of its biofilm intellectual property to Commonwealth Biotechnologies for 2,600,000 shares at \$US1.00 a share (\$A3.2 million).

The company said it had a convertible note facility with related-party Nasdaq-listed Commonwealth Biotechnologies to complete the issue of the shares to Biosignal (BD: Jul 13, 2009).

Biosignal said the assignment of the majority of its intellectual property and the repayment of the convertible note through the issue of up to 114 million Biosignal shares to Commonwealth Biotechnologies at three cents a share were subject to Biosignal shareholder approval.

Biosignal said it would retain licenced rights to use the biofilm intellectual property to service some contracts not assigned to Commonwealth Biotechnologies.

Commonwealth Biotechnologies director and chief operating officer Dr Richard Freer said the Biosignal biofilm technology portfolio held "promise for a broad range of medical and industrial applications".

"This, combined with another proposed acquisition, Commonwealth Biotechnologies' acquisition of GL Biochem, will provide an outstanding opportunity to develop this technology in an efficient and cost effective way," Dr Freer said.

Biosignal said the complete and final terms of the transaction and the convertible note facility would be made available to shareholders in a notice of meeting seeking the shareholder approvals.

The company said the sale and convertible note were "subject to limited conditions precedent and subsequent which if not satisfied or waived within 20 business days provides the parties with certain rights to terminate and unwind the transaction".

Biosignal said negotiations for its planned "major acquisition" have progressed significantly and the company planned to make further announcements when negotiations and due diligence were finalized "in the coming weeks".

Commonwealth Biotechnologies director Dr Paul D'Sylva is believed to be the principal of Empire Investments which acquired control of Biosignal through its dominance on the board (BD: May 6, 21, 28, 2009).

Biosignal was untraded at 2.2 cents.

FERMISCAN

Fermiscan says it is conducting clinical trials of its x-ray diffraction test for breast cancer at Egypt's Mansoura University Hospital.

The company said it was evaluating "the utility of the Fermiscan test in a low income setting".

Fermiscan executive director Leon Carr told Biotech Daily that the Egyptian trial began "about two weeks ago" and further information about the trial would be released "in the near future".

Fermiscan was up 0.8 cents or 10.1 percent to 8.7 cents.

BIOTRON

Biotron says it has more than two quarters cash.

Biotron said it had a total operating cash burn of \$447,000 for the three months to June 30, 2009 and cash at the end of the quarter of \$951,000.

Biotron was unchanged at 10 cents.

OCCUPATIONAL & MEDICAL INNOVATIONS

Occupational & Medical Innovations has extended the date of its first \$2 million tranche of the share plan for its Safe IV Access Valve to July 31, 2009.

The company said it hoped to raise \$6 million in three tranches (BD: Jul 17, 2009) and there was "significant interest" from institutional and sophisticated investors.

Occupational & Medical was up four cents or 22.2 percent to 22 cents.