



Biotech Daily

Monday September 28, 2009

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

*** ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: OPTISCAN UP 24%; USCOM DOWN 9%**

*** HALCYGEN VOTES ON 100m MAYNE SHARES; SHARE PLAN**

*** BIO-MELBOURNE MASTER CLASS ON GRANT WRITING**

*** JP MORGAN REDUCES 2.6% IN QRX PHARMA**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 0.76 percent on Monday September 28, 2009 with the S&P ASX 200 down 35.9 points to 4677.4 points.

Eleven of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 19 fell, six traded unchanged and four were untraded. All three Big Caps were down.

Optiscan was best for the third trading day in a row, up 2.5 cents or 23.8 percent to 13 cents with 807,544 shares traded, up 73.3 percent in three trading days.

Living Cell, Starpharma and Viralytics climbed more than seven percent; Acrux was up 5.96 percent; Genetic Technologies and Tyrian were up four percent or more; Mesoblast rose 2.96 percent; Sunshine heart was up 1.85 percent; with Biota and Novogen up by less than one percent.

Uscom led the falls, down seven cents or 9.3 percent to 68 cents with 5,000 shares traded followed by Phylogica, down one cent or 9.1 percent to 10 cents with 434,700 shares traded.

Cathrx lost 6.3 percent; Bionomics fell 5.9 percent; Alchemia, Genera and Phosphagenics fell more than four percent; Resmed lost 3.25 percent; Benitec, Cellestis, Chemgenex and Tissue Therapies shed two percent or more; with Clinuvel, CSL, Impedimed, Pharmaxis, Sirtex and Universal Biosensors down more than one percent.

HALCYGEN

Halcygen investors will vote to issue 99,534,400 placement, plan and directors' shares along with 6,050,000 options, for the Mayne Pharma acquisition (BD: Sep 25, 2009). Halcygen's notice of meeting said that chairman and chief executive officer Dr Roger Aston would be issued one million shares at 20 cents each and 1,900,000 free options exercisable at 27 cents by December 31, 2012.

The notice said that director Bruce Mathieson would be issued 7,500,000 of the 20 cent shares along with 350,000 options, with 375,000 shares at 20 cents each being issued to director Ian Scholes, along with 350,000 free options.

The resolutions propose 1,400,000 free options for chief operating officer and executive director Craig Bottomley and 350,000 free options for director Ron Best

Halcygen shareholders will vote on two placements of 11,414,850 shares and 33,585,150 shares, respectively, at 20 cents a share, along with two share plans of 22,829,700 shares in each plan, also at 20 cents a share.

Halcygen said the share plan would offer shares in parcels ranging from \$1,000 to \$15,000 to investors at the record date of October 9, 2009 and would close on October 23, 2009.

A further 1,700,000 free options exercisable at 27 cents by December 31, 2012 are included in a resolution to approve an employee share plan.

The meeting will be held at the Stamford Plaza Hotel, 111 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, on October 28, 2009 at 11am.

Halcygen was up 2.5 cents or 6.33 percent to 42 cents with 1.2 million shares traded.

BIO-MELBOURNE NETWORK

The Bio-Melbourne Network will run a master class on writing grant applications on October 9, 2009.

The Network said the half-day workshop would focus on which government, business and philanthropic grants were available for the biotechnology industry and the criteria for successful applications.

The Bio-Melbourne Network said the master class would also focus on the styles of grant writing that increase the chances of a successful outcome.

The Network said the key speakers were Grantready chief executive officer Adrian Spencer, KPMG's government advisory services senior manager Corrina Bertram and the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute's head of fundraising, communications and external relations Michelle Trevorrow.

The industry organization said the key topics included what government wants, developing a targeted grant strategy, effective grant writing, knowing what your assessor thinks and upcoming opportunities from the Victorian Governments Department of Innovation Industry and Regional Development.

The master class will include practical grant writing sessions for different grant types.

The Bio-Melbourne Network said the workshop would cover philanthropic grants and the sorts of criteria used in assessing these applications.

For more information go to: <http://www.biomelbourne.org/events/view/57> or call Anita Petris on +613 9667 8182.

QRX PHARMA

JP Morgan Securities Australia reduced its substantial holding in QRX Pharma from 6,222,599 shares (8.3%) to 4,279,359 shares (5.71) on September 23 and 24, 2009.

JP Morgan said it bought and sold shares between 25 cents and 55 cents from January 28, 2009 until July 30, 2009 and since then sold shares at prices ranging from 58 cents to 90 cents.

The shares sold on September 24 sold for an average of 79 cents a share.

QRX was unchanged at 80 cents.