



Biotech Daily

Thursday July 11, 2019

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX UP, BIOTECH EVEN: DIMERIX UP 9%; PATRYS DOWN 9%**
- * **PRESCIENT STARTS PHASE Ib PTX-100 MULTIPLE CANCERS TRIAL**
- * **DIMERIX EUROPE, CANADA PATENTS; PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP**
- * **GI DYNAMICS: 'BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S LEAD ENDOBARRIER SITE'**
- * **MGC REVENUE UP 569% TO \$1.7m; TWO QUARTERS CASH**
- * **RHINOMED: 'MUTE FASTEST GROWING US NASAL STRIP'**
- * **ZELDA PLEADS SCHULTZ TO 46% ASX QUERY**
- * **MICRO-X EXPANDS ADELAIDE PRODUCTION FACILITY**
- * **SHAREROOT: 'OPYL PLATFORM SIGNS 1st CUSTOMERS'**
- * **FIL INCREASES, DILUTED TO 8% OF COGSTATE**
- * **NEBULA NEURO, HOWITT DILUTED TO 6% OF COGSTATE**
- * **JAMBER, AMBER SCHWARTZ TAKE 5% OF CRESO**
- * **GENERA APPOINTS CMO DR DAMIAN PETHICA CHAIRMAN**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.39 percent on Thursday July 11, 2019, with the ASX200 up 26.3 points to 6,716.1 points. Fourteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 15 fell, nine traded unchanged and two were untraded.

Dimerix was the best, up one cent or 9.1 percent to 12 cents, with 494,714 shares traded. Pro Medicus climbed 5.2 percent; Impedimed improved four percent; Clinuvel, Medical Developments and Opthea were up more than three percent; Antisense, Cynata, Paradigm, Pharmaxis and Polynovo rose more than two percent; Volpara was up 1.8 percent; with CSL, Immutep and Telix up by less than one percent.

PatrYS led the falls, down 0.2 cents or 8.7 percent to 2.1 cents, with 3.4 million shares traded. Both Optiscan and Uscom lost 3.6 percent; Orthocell, Starpharma and Universal Biosensors shed two percent or more; Avita, Benitec, Compumedics and Osprey were down more than one percent; with Cochlear, Ellex, Genetic Signatures, Mesoblast, Nanosonics, Neuren and Resmed down by less than one percent.

PRESCIENT THERAPEUTICS

Prescient says it has begun a 24-patient, phase Ib, open-label trial of PTX-100 for multiple cancers including myeloma, T-cell lymphomas, gastric and pancreatic cancer.

Prescient said study at Melbourne's Epworth Hospital would evaluate the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of PTX-100, the safety and efficacy of two doses and specific mutations that identify patients most likely to respond to its PTX-100 therapy.

The company said PTX-100 would target cancers with Ras and Rho mutations by blocking the geranylgeranyl transferase-1 (GGT-1) cancer growth enzyme, which inactivates Rho, Rac and Ral circuits in cancer cells, leading to the death of those cells.

Prescient said the trial would take a 'basket' approach to assess the drug on multiple cancers with a view to addressing specific mutations, rather than tumor origin.

The company said patients would be given PTX-100 by intravenous infusion in four cycles of 14 days, with the drug given over 60 minutes on days one to five.

Prescient was unchanged at 3.9 cents with 1.4 million shares traded.

DIMERIX

Dimerix says it has European and Canadian patents for use of its DMX-200 combination irbesartan and propagermanium drug for kidney disease.

Dimerix said the patent, entitled 'Combination Therapy' would protect its intellectual property until 2032 and might cover more products than DMX-200.

The company said it had corresponding patents in Australia, New Zealand and the US.

Dimerix told Biotech Daily that US President Donald Trump had signed an executive order to improve kidney health and promote increased treatment options.

A media release from the US White House said current options were too expensive, failed to provide a high quality of life and "the President has repeatedly sought to make innovative investments that help patients and ultimately lower costs in the long run".

The White House media release is available at <https://bit.ly/2Jsr7lm>.

Dimerix was up one cent or 9.1 percent to 12 cents.

GI DYNAMICS

GI Dynamics says that Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital will be the lead clinical site for its pivotal US Endobarrier duodenal-jejunum insert trial.

Last month, GI Dynamics said it had contracts for the first two sites of its Endobarrier trial for obesity and type 2 diabetes, at the Ann Arbor-based University of Michigan and the Houston, Texas-based Baylor College of Medicine (BD: Jun 13, 2019).

In February, the company said the pivotal trial would be in two parts, beginning with 50 patients receiving Endobarrier and 17 control patients and then up to 240 patients, with 180 receiving Endobarrier and 60 control patients (BD: Feb 14, 2019).

GI Dynamics said it would begin enrolling patients from July 2019.

GI Dynamics was unchanged at 3.6 cents.

RHINOMED

Rhinomed says a US industry report shows its Mute nasal stent "is the fastest growing product in the nasal strip category" in US pharmacies and drug stores.

Rhinomed said the Drugstores News Management's report showed that Mute sales grew 56.6 percent in US dollar terms and 57.2 percent in units for the year to April 21, 2019.

Rhinomed was up three cents or 12.8 percent to 26.5 cents.

MGC PHARMACEUTICALS

MGC says it has first material revenue with receipts from customers up 568.9 percent to \$1,659,000 for the year to June 30, 2019 compared to the previous year.

MGC said revenue was from pharmaceutical purchase orders and supply agreements with Cannaglobal for its cosmetic raw materials and Mabsut Life for the delivery of products.

The company said it had a net operating cash burn of \$1,627,000 for the three months to June 30, 2019, with cash and cash equivalents of \$2,355,000 and expected cash outflows for the three months to September 30, 2019 of \$1,771,000.

MGC was up 0.1 cents or 1.9 percent to 5.3 cents with 1.8 million shares traded.

ZELDA THERAPEUTICS

Zelda 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 2.1 cents or 45.7 percent from 4.6 cents on July 8 to 6.7 cents ON July 10, 2019 and noted a "significant increase" in the volume of securities traded.

Zelda said that "as part of its general business development, it is party to ongoing discussions in relation to partnerships and collaborations, but no formal agreements have been entered into, and the company does not reasonably expect that this would explain the trading in the company's shares".

Zelda fell 0.3 cents or 4.55 percent to 6.3 cents with 4.6 million shares traded.

MICRO-X

Micro-X says it is expanding its Adelaide production and development facility by 700 square metres to meet production requirements.

Micro-X said it would increase production at its Tonsley Innovation District of the Carestream DRX Revolution Nano and produce its Rover military bedside imager, currently in development.

The company said it would develop and test activities for its mobile backscatter imager and begin prototype engineering in-house.

Micro-X said the expansion would include more mechanical and electrical engineering laboratory space, a walk-in shielded room, an x-ray shielded room for high-dose stand-off imaging tests and increased office space.

Micro-X was unchanged at 25.5 cents.

SHAREROOT

Shareroot says it has three new customers for its Opyl digital health insights platform to solve patient or healthcare provider marketing problems.

Shareroot said its platform accessed publicly-available data sources, patient generated data or clinical data and used artificial intelligence and machine learning tools to predict and analyze unmet needs and medical research opportunities.

The company said the Opyl software was developed by chief executive officer Michelle Gallaher and director Damon Rasheed.

"This is exactly the deep, real-world, analytical solution I wanted when I worked in healthcare and research marketing roles in the past," Ms Gallaher said

Shareroot was unchanged at 0.15 cents with 2.5 million shares traded.

COGSTATE

FIL Limited says it has increased and been diluted in Cogstate from 11,426,018 shares (10.00%) to 11,565,973 shares (8.14%).

The Hong Kong-based FIL said that between July 2 and November 6, 2018, it bought 704,260 shares and sold 564,305 shares at prices ranging from 59 to 76 cents a share. FIL said it was diluted in the \$4 million placement to Australian Ethical (BD: Jul 8, 2019). Cogstate was up 1.5 cents or 8.3 percent to 19.5 cents.

COGSTATE

Nebula Neuro and Howitt Nominees say their 9,000,000 share-holding in Cogstate has been diluted from 8.41 percent to 6.34 percent.

On Monday, Cogstate said it raised \$4 million in a placement to Australian Ethical Investment (BD: Jul 8, 2019).

CRESO PHARMA

Jamber Investments and the Amber Schwartz family say they have become substantial shareholders in Creso with 8,000,000 shares or 5.3 percent.

The Sydney-based James Schwartz said that Jamber acquired the shares on July 2, 2019 in the conversion of 80 convertible notes, worth \$50,000 each.

Creso fell 2.5 cents or 5.1 percent to 46.5 cents.

GENERA BIOSYSTEMS

Genera says it has appointed chief medical officer Dr Damian Pethica as its executive chairman, replacing Lou Panaccio who resigned last week (BD: Jul 2, 2019).

Genera said Dr Pethica was formerly Ciba-Geigy head of oncology, cardiovascular medical advisor and medical director.

The company said that previously Dr Pethica was for JP Morgan Chase head of European biotechnology research and held specialist advisory and consulting roles in Australia and New Zealand.

Genera said Dr Pethica was currently a member of the New Zealand Standing Committee on Therapeutic Trials.

The company said Dr Pethica held a Bachelor of Arts from Oxford University and a Bachelor of Medicine and a Bachelor of Surgery from London's University College Hospital.

Genera said Dr Pethica would be paid \$125,000 a year as chairman and chief medical officer and would be entitled to participate in the company's employee option scheme.

Genera was in an extended suspension and last traded at 16 cents.