



Biotech Daily

Monday August 10, 2020

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX, BIOTECH UP: ALTERITY UP 25%; KAZIA DOWN 15%**
- * **ATOMO: TGA APPROVES RAPID SARS-COV-2 ANTIBODY TEST**
- * **ANATARA UNI OF NEW ENGLAND WORK ON POULTRY ENTERITIS**
- * **BARD1 EURO PATENT VALIDATED IN 6 COUNTRIES**
- * **MEDIBIO ILUMEN FOR STRESS US PATENT**
- * **EMERALD, CANOPY DEAL FOR 'REAL-WORLD EVIDENCE' SYSTEM**
- * **M&G: CLAIMS TO REDUCE TO 11% OF MESOBLAST**
- * **ALLAN GRAY REDUCES TO 10.1% OF IMPEDIMED**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 1.76 percent on Monday August 10, 2020, with the ASX200 up 105.4 points to 6,110.2 points.

Twenty of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 13 fell, six traded unchanged and one was untraded.

Alterity was the best, up 1.3 cents or 25.0 percent to 6.5 cents, with 38.4 million shares traded.

Osprey climbed 11.4 percent; Mesoblast was up 10.7 percent; Dimerix improved 6.4 percent; Pharmaxis and Prescient were up five percent or more; Optiscan was up 4.2 percent; Imugene was up 3.6 percent; Avita, Proteomics and Universal Biosensors rose two percent or more; Clinuvel, Cochlear, CSL, Genetic Signatures and Orthocell were up more than one percent; with Cynata, Nanosonics, Neuren, Next Science, Polynovo and Telix up by less than one percent.

Friday's 57.1 percent best, Kazia, led the falls, down 13 cents or 14.8 percent to 75 cents, with 3.2 million shares traded. Actinogen fell 4.2 percent; Antisense, LBT and Nova Eye were down more than three percent; Compumedics, Paradigm and Uscom shed more than two percent; Resmed and Starpharma were down more than one percent; with Medical Developments, Opthea, Pro Medicus and Volpara down by less than one percent.

ATOMO DIAGNOSTICS

Atomo says Australia's Therapeutic Goods Administration has approved its Rapid blood test for antibodies to severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2 (Sars-Cov-2). Atomo said that once listed on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods, it would supply the Rapid test of immunoglobulin G and M for Sars-Cov-2, the virus that caused Covid-19, to departments of health, laboratories, medical practitioners and health care professionals in aged-care facilities.

The company said it had allocated an initial 100,000 units to Australia, which would be scaled-up based on demand.

Atomo said that a study of the test in Atomo's Pascal device by the Paris-based Hopital Bicêtre tested 256 sera from 101 patients and found that "sensitivity and specificity were 97.0 percent and 100 percent, respectively, 15 days after the onset of symptoms".

The company said that a study of the test in Atomo's Galileo device at the Paris-based Pasteur Institute tested 78 positive and 22 negative samples collected from patients who were confirmed positive or negative and found that 15 days after the onset of symptoms sensitivity and specificity were 96.8 percent and 100 percent, respectively.

Atomo said that the TGA approval was for the Galileo device and required that all approved Covid-19 antibody tests provide additional evidence to demonstrate ongoing safety and performance within 12 months of approval, and it would submit the test to Melbourne's Peter Doherty Institute to assist with post-market validation.

Atomo was up 5.5 cents or 16.2 percent to 39.5 cents with 22.0 million shares traded.

ANATARA LIFESCIENCES

Anatara says it has an agreement with the University of New England for a study of its bromelain-based formulation ANR-PF for sub-clinical and necrotic enteritis in poultry. Anatara has been developing the pineapple stem, bromelain based Detach for livestock diarrhoea as well as a version for inflammatory bowel disease and irritable bowel syndrome (BD: Oct 14, 2019; Jan 22, 2020).

Today, the company said necrotic enteritis was caused by the bacterium Clostridium perfringens, caused lesions in the chicken's intestine and could lead to flock mortality of one percent per day, with the true cost from chickens that survived sub-clinical necrotic enteritis, estimated to be \$US6 billion in 2015.

Anatara said it expected to complete the poultry study by January 31, 2021.

Anatara chief executive officer Steve Lydeamore said the company had engaged with the University's Poultry Hub Australia to conduct trials at the University of New England.

"Our objectives are aligned to help Australia achieve sustainable, ethical poultry production," Mr Lydeamore said.

Anatara fell half a cent or 3.7 percent to 13 cents.

BARD1 LIFE SCIENCES

Bard1 says its European patent for ovarian and breast cancer has been validated in France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Switzerland and the UK.

Bard1 said the patent, titled 'Kits for detecting breast or ovarian cancer in a body fluid sample and use thereof' would protect its intellectual property until September 23, 2031.

The company said the patent had been granted on April 29, 2020 but was "not enforceable until validation has been completed in the designated countries".

Bard1 was up 0.3 cents or 9.4 percent to 3.5 cents with 14.2 million shares traded.

MEDIBIO

Medibio says the US Patent and Trademark Office has granted it a patent for its Illumen sleeping heart-rate monitor for stress.

Medibio said the patent, titled 'Method and System for Monitoring Stress Conditions' would protect its intellectual property until February 15, 2037.

Medibio fell 0.1 cents or 8.3 percent to 1.1 cents with 24.3 million shares traded.

EMERALD CLINICS

Emerald says it has a \$723,000 deal to develop marijuana "real-world evidence" system for Canopy Growth subsidiary Spectrum Biomedical UK.

Emerald said it would have 24 months to collect data, including de-identified patient information, use of concomitant medicines, prescribed usage and diagnoses and a range of patient-reported outcome measures.

The company said the safety, efficacy and pharmaco-economics data would be provided to Spectrum to guide its treatment development programs.

Emerald said it would receive an upfront design and development fee of \$270,000 and a \$542 per patient fee, with total fees capped at \$723,000.

Emerald chief executive officer Dr Michael Winlo said that the evidence and data gathered by Emerald was "of exceptional quality and depth, and therefore relevant to licenced producers, regulators, prescribers and importantly, the end patient".

Emerald was up 1.7 cents or 39.5 percent to six cents with 28.2 million shares traded.

MESOBLAST

M&G Investment Funds says it has reduced its substantial shareholding in Mesoblast from 70,068,935 shares (12.05%) to 64,531,906 shares (11.04%).

The London-based M&G said the previous notice was given on May 26, 2020.

Last week, M&G said it had reduced its holding in Mesoblast from 72,470,118 shares (12.48%) on May 18 to 65,668,769 shares (11.24%) on August 5, 2020 (BD: Aug 7, 2020).

On May 27, M&G said it had reduced its holding from 70,636,115 shares (13.15%) to 70,068,935 shares (12.05%) (BD: May 27, 2020).

Today, M&G said it sold shares between May 26 and August 5, 2020, with what appeared to be the single largest sale of 3,030,445 shares for \$13,152,295 or \$4.34 a share.

M&G also said it had sold 29,750 shares, or possibly American depository receipts, for \$35,402,500 but no calculation made sense of the claim.

Mesoblast was up 47 cents or 10.7 percent to \$4.87 with 12.1 million shares traded.

IMPEDIMED

Allan Gray Australia says it has reduced its substantial shareholding in Impedimed from 112,495,141 shares (11.23%) to 104,869,050 shares (10.13%).

The Sydney-based Allan Gray said that between May 7 and August 5, 2020 it sold 7,626,091 shares for \$512,913 or 6.7 cents a share.

Impedimed was unchanged at 7.9 cents with 3.2 million shares traded.