



# Biotech Daily

Wednesday August 26, 2020

*Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies*

- \* **ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: OPTISCAN UP 12%; PRESCIENT DOWN 9%**
- \* **QUEENSLAND UNI, CSL COVID-19 VACCINE 'POSITIVE INDICATIONS', IN-VIVO**
- \* **COGSTATE REVENUE UP 8.5% TO \$32.9m, LOSS DOWN 47% TO \$1.8m**
- \* **POLYNOVO REVENUE UP 54.6% TO \$22.2m, LOSS UP 31.5% TO \$4.2m**
- \* **HYDRIX REVENUE UP 12.2% TO \$16m, LOSS DOWN 24% TO \$3.2m**
- \* **CYCLOPHARM H1 REVENUE DOWN 11% TO \$5.8m, LOSS UP 87% TO \$5.6m**
- \* **IMMUTEP REVENUE OF \$7.5m, LOSS DOWN 26.6% TO \$13.5m**
- \* **IMPEDIMED REVENUE UP 38% TO \$5.7m, LOSS DOWN 11.4% TO \$21.4m**
- \* **VISIONEERING H1 REVENUE DOWN 12% TO \$2.8m, LOSS DOWN 23% TO \$7.2m**
- \* **CYNATA REVENUE OF \$4.5m, LOSS DOWN 57% TO \$3.6m**
- \* **RHINOMED REVENUE UP 8.5% TO \$3.6m, LOSS UP 22.3% TO \$7.3m**
- \* **NEXT SCIENCE H1 REVENUE DOWN 55% TO \$1.5m, LOSS DOWN 22% TO \$9.3m**
- \* **PRESCIENT PLACEMENT RAISES \$7m, TOTAL \$13.5m**
- \* **NEUROTECH \$500k PLACEMENT FOR DOLCE MARIJUANA**
- \* **PLATINUM TAKES 12.3% OF ADALTA**
- \* **AUSTRALIAN ETHICAL BELOW 5% IN PRESCIENT**
- \* **VISIONEERING PLEADS SCHULTZ TO ASX 87.5% PRICE QUERY**
- \* **INCANNEX: 'IHL-675A ARDS ANTI-INFLAMMATORY RESPONSE, IN-VITRO'**

## MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 0.73 percent on Wednesday August 26, 2020, with the ASX200 down 45.0 points to 6,116.4 points. Fifteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 19 fell and six traded unchanged.

Optiscan was the best, up 0.6 cents or 12 percent to 5.6 cents, with 1.1 million shares traded. Avita climbed 8.1 percent; Amplia rose 7.7 percent; Proteomics was up 6.6 percent; Actinogen and Cyclopharm improved more than four percent; LBT was up 3.85 percent; Antisense, Immutep and Starpharma rose more than two percent; Next Science, Orthocell and Universal Biosensors were up more than one percent; with CSL, Neuren, Resmed and Telix up by less than one percent.

Prescient led the falls, down 0.7 cents or 9.1 percent to seven cents, with 11.1 million shares traded. Polynovo lost 8.5 percent; Cynata shed seven percent; Oncosil and Paradigm fell more than four percent; Alterity, Impedimed and Osprey were down more than three percent; Nanosonics and Uscom shed more than two percent; Dimerix, Imugene, Kazia, Medical Developments, Mesoblast, Nova Eye, Opthea and Pro Medicus were down one percent or more; with Clinuvel and Cochlear down less than one percent.

## UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND, CSL

The University of Queensland says that pre-clinical testing of its Covid-19 vaccine “has produced positive indications about its potential effectiveness and manufacturability”.

In a media release, the University of Queensland said that the CSL supported vaccine project had reported to the International Society for Vaccines on data from hamster trials conducted by the Rotterdam-based Viroclinics-DDL.

Project co-leader Prof Keith Chappell said that “the neutralizing immune response created by our molecular clamp vaccine in animal models was better than the average level of antibodies found in patients who have recovered from Covid-19”.

“In hamster models, the vaccine combined with the [CSL] Seqirus MF59 adjuvant, provided protection against virus replication, and reduced lung inflammation following exposure to the virus,” Prof Chappell said.

“It also induces a strong T-cell response and showed strong results when it came to data relating to manufacturability,” Prof Chappell said.

“One of the big challenges in the development of vaccines is the ability to produce them at sufficient scale for widespread use,” Dr Chappell said.

“We are working with CSL to ensure the production yield is as efficient as possible, and have every confidence they will be able to manufacture the millions of doses required to protect the Australian public,” Prof Chappell said.

“The phase I study being conducted in Queensland is progressing well and assuming the study demonstrates adequate safety and immune responses, data should be available in time for CSL to commence the required large-scale efficacy study before the end of the year,” Prof Chappell said.

Queensland Innovation Minister Kate Jones said the results were “a huge milestone in the development of a Queensland vaccine”.

“A vaccine is vital in putting an end to this pandemic,” Ms Jones said.

“That’s why the government has thrown its support behind [the University of Queensland] with \$10 million in funding to fast-track this research,” Ms Jones said.

The media release said its team was “the first project in the world to report against a Covid-19 reference standard, produced by The National Institute for Biological Standards and Control and recommended by the World Health Organization”.

The University said it was “not possible to compare the immune response between vaccines” as different teams used different assays and methods to test virus neutralization, but by sharing data and comparing it to an international reference standard it would inspire other teams to do the same.

The media release said the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness provided \$15.2 million to develop the molecular clamp vaccine platform for rapid vaccine design and production, with \$5 million from the Federal Government and more than \$10 million from donors.

## COGSTATE

Cogstate says revenue for the year to June 30, 2020 was up 8.5 percent to \$US23,686,608 (\$A32,943,832) with net loss after tax down 47.3 percent to \$US1,315,796 (\$A1,830,037).

Cogstate said revenue included \$US21,075,922 for cognitive testing from clinical trials, \$US2,350,910 from its healthcare segment and \$US259,776 from its research segment.

The company said diluted loss per share was down 61.9 percent to 0.8 cents, net tangible asset backing per share was constant at 1.5 cents and it had cash and cash equivalents of \$US10,330,777 at June 30, 2020 compared to \$US3,216,017 at June 30, 2019.

Cogstate was up 2.5 cents or 3.6 percent to 72.5 cents.

## POLYNOVO

Polynovo says revenue for the year to June 30, 2020 was up 54.6 percent to \$22,228,501 with net loss after tax up 31.5 percent to \$4,193,738.

Polynovo said revenue was from its Novosorb technology for biodegradable medical devices and included \$18,665,595 from the US, \$2,822,146 from Australia and New Zealand, \$668,382 from the rest of the world, \$35,311 in interest and \$111 in other income.

The company said net tangible asset backing per share was down 7.7 percent to 3.6 cents, diluted loss per share was up 31.3 percent to 0.63 cents and it had cash and cash equivalents of \$11,647,701 at June 30, 2020 compared to \$13,920,695 at June 30, 2019. Polynovo fell 20 cents or 8.5 percent to \$2.16 with 12.15 million shares traded.

## HYDRIX

Hydrix says revenue for the year to June 30, 2020 was up 12.2 percent to \$15,899,742 with net loss after tax down 23.7 percent to \$3,219,461.

Hydrix said revenue was primarily from its Hydrix Services business to establish Hydrix Medical and acquire the rights to distribute Angel Medical's Guardian heart attack alert device.

The company said net tangible asset backing per share was up 64.2 percent to negative 7.01 cents, diluted loss per share was down 33.5 percent to 4.35 cents and it had cash and cash equivalents of \$1,690,194 at June 30, 2020 compared to \$234,627 at June 30, 2019.

Hydrix was unchanged at 42 cents with 1.8 million shares traded.

## CYCLOPHARM

Cyclopharm says revenue for the six months to June 30, 2020 was down 11.3 percent to \$5,766,657 with net loss after tax up 86.8 percent to \$5,649,881.

Cyclopharm said revenue was primarily from sales of Technegas for lung imaging, down 24.5 percent to \$4,912,000, including \$3.69 million in sales of its individual patient administration sets, and a further \$854,000 from non-Technegas sales.

The company said it would pay an unfranked interim dividend of 0.5 cents, for a record date of September 7 and payable on September 14, 2020.

Cyclopharm said net tangible asset backing per share was up 15.4 percent to 15 cents, diluted loss per share was up 64.8 percent to 7.35 cents and it had cash and cash equivalents of \$8,063,535 at June 30, 2020 compared to \$5,765,721 at June 30, 2019.

Cyclopharm was up six cents or 4.6 percent to \$1.365.

## IMMUTEP

Immutep says revenue for the year to June 30, 2020 was \$7,486,444 with net loss after tax down 26.6 percent to \$13,468,232.

Immutep said revenue was primarily the Glaxosmithkline milestone payment for the first patient dosed in the phase II clinical trial of GSK2831781 for ulcerative colitis.

The company said net tangible asset backing per share was up 68.2 percent to 3.7 cents, diluted loss per share was down 38.7 percent to 3.36 cents and it had cash and cash equivalents of \$26,322,047 at June 30, 2020 compared to \$16,567,982 at June 30, 2019.

Immutep was up half a cent or 2.6 percent to 19.5 cents with one million shares traded.

### IMPEDIMED

Impedimed says revenue for the year to June 30, 2020 was up 38.1 percent to \$5,741,000 with net loss after tax down 11.4 percent to \$21,377,000.

Impedimed said revenue included \$5,656,000 in sales of its Sozo device, \$1,038,000 in legacy (L-Dex) revenue and \$47,000 in other revenue.

The company said net tangible asset backing per share was down 33.3 percent to 2.0 cents, diluted loss per share was down 33.3 percent to 4.0 cents and it had cash and cash equivalents of \$19,663,000 at June 30, 2020 compared to \$11,330,000 at June 30, 2019. Impedimed fell 0.3 cents or 3.9 percent to 7.4 cents with 2.3 million shares traded.

### VISIONEERING TECHNOLOGIES

Visioneering says revenue for the six months to June 30, 2020 was down 12.1 percent to \$US2,034,000 (\$A2,828,930) with net loss after tax down 22.9 percent to \$US5,174,000 (\$A7,196,108).

Visioneering said revenue was from sales of its multifocal contact lenses and included \$US1,907,000 from North America and \$US127,000 from Europe and the Asia Pacific.

The company said net tangible asset backing per share fell 90 percent from one US cent to 0.1 US cents, diluted loss per share was down 66.7 percent to 1.0 US cents and it had cash and cash equivalents of \$US4,035,000 at June 30, 2020 compared to \$US1,269,000 at June 30, 2019.

Visioneering fell 0.3 cents or 10.7 percent to 2.5 cents with 17.7 million shares traded.

### CYNATA THERAPEUTICS

Cynata says revenue for the year to June 30, 2020 was \$4,515,583 with net loss after tax down 57.0 percent to \$3,639,100.

Cynata said revenue included a \$4,449,632 Fujifilm Corp milestone payment under its graft-versus-host-disease licence agreement and \$65,951 in interest.

The company said net tangible asset backing per share was up 55.3 percent to 11.8 cents, diluted loss per share was down 59.0 percent to 3.48 cents and it had cash and cash equivalents of \$13,649,644 at June 30, 2020 compared to \$6,977,390 at June 30, 2019.

Cynata fell 6.5 cents or seven percent to 86.5 cents with 1.1 million shares traded.

### RHINOMED

Rhinomed says revenue for the year to June 30, 2020 was up 8.5 percent to \$3,565,363 with net loss after tax up 22.3 percent to \$7,266,223.

Rhinomed said revenue was from sales of its consumer and medical devices, including its Mute nasal dilator technology.

The company said net tangible asset backing per share was up 180.3 percent to 3.28 cents, diluted loss per share was down 0.7 percent to 4.43 cents and it had cash and cash equivalents of \$7,757,474 at June 30, 2020 compared to \$1,421,315 at June 30, 2019.

Rhinomed was unchanged at 7.7 cents.

### NEXT SCIENCE

Next Science says revenue for the six months to June 30, 2020 was down 55.1 percent to \$US1,053,858 (\$A1,465,916) with net loss after tax down 21.6 percent to \$US6,695,858 (\$A9,313,938).

Next Science said revenue was from sales of its Bactisure wound lavage and hospital cleaner surface disinfectant, including \$US1,004,774 from sales in the US and \$US49,084 from sales in Australia.

The company said net tangible asset backing per share was down 54.7 percent to 5.75 US cents, diluted loss per share was down 34.0 percent to 3.70 US cents and it had cash and cash equivalents of \$US11,907,362 at June 30, 2020 compared to \$US22,980,128 at June 30, 2019.

Next Science was up 1.5 cents or 1.1 percent to \$1.39.

### PRESCIENT THERAPEUTICS

Prescient says it has commitments to raise \$7,046,084 through a placement at 5.5 cents a share, taking the total raised to \$13.5 million.

Earlier this month, Prescient said it had raised \$6.5 million through an over-subscribed share purchase plan at 5.5 cents a share (BD: Aug 21, 2020).

Today, the company said the funds would be used to develop target therapies, cell therapy enhancements, its next-generation chimeric antigen receptor T-cell (CAR-T) platform, Omnicar and for working capital.

Prescient fell 0.7 cents or 9.1 percent to seven cents with 11.1 million shares traded.

### NEUROTECH INTERNATIONAL

Neurotech has released a second "disclosure document" saying it hopes to raise up to \$338,750 through a placement at 0.5 cents a share, pending shareholder approval

In July, Neurotech said it would licence marijuana strains from Dolce Cann Global for \$50,000 plus securities and royalties and raise \$500,000 in a placement at 0.5 cents a share (BD: Jul 3, 2020).

In an announcement marked as a disclosure document on July 15, 2020, the company said it would raise up to \$161,250 at 0.5 cents a share.

Neurotech will hold an extraordinary general meeting on Monday August 31, 2020 to vote on the placement.

Neurotech was up 0.1 cents or 7.7 percent to 1.4 cents with 3.85 million shares traded.

### ADALTA

Platinum Investment Management says it has increased its substantial shareholding in Adalta from 14,000,067 shares (8.52%) to 25,000,067 shares (12.26%).

The Sydney-based Platinum said that on August 18, 2020 it acquired 11,000,000 shares for \$1,100,000 or 10 cents a share.

Earlier this month, Adalta said it had raised \$4 million in a placement and hoped to raise a further \$4.1 million in a rights offer at 10 cents a share (BD: Aug 11, 2020).

Adalta fell one cent or 9.1 percent to 10 cents.

### [PRESCIENT THERAPEUTICS](#)

Australian Ethical Investment says it has ceased to be a substantial shareholder in Prescient but continued to hold 25,551,534 shares or 4.99 percent of the company. The Sydney-based Australian Ethical said it was diluted on August 24 in the \$6.5 million over-subscribed share purchase plan at 5.5 cents a share (BD: Aug 21, 2020).

### [VISIONEERING TECHNOLOGIES](#)

Visioneering 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 87.5 percent from 1.6 cents on August 18, 2020 to 3.0 cents on August 25, 2020 and noted a "significant increase" in the trading volume.

### [INCANNEX HEALTHCARE](#)

Incannex says that both cannabidiol and hydroxychloroquine display anti-inflammatory dose response curves for acute respiratory distress syndrome (Ards) in-vitro.

Incannex said that the study of an in-vitro assay of IHL-675A for sepsis-associated Ards treated human peripheral blood mono-nuclear cells from three donors with five different concentrations of cannabidiol and hydroxychloroquine, prior to inducing an inflammatory response using bacterial lipopolysaccharide.

The company said that after 24 hours, it found that with increasing concentrations of the drug, the cells produced fewer cytokines in response to stimulation with lipo-poly-saccharide.

Incannex said the highest concentrations of cannabidiol at 20 micrograms per milliliter (ug/ml) and 50ug/ml of hydroxychloroquine, completely inhibited cytokine production.

The company said the study aimed "to define the range of study drug concentrations to inform assessment in the in-vitro and in-vivo combination studies".

Incannex was up 0.1 cents or 1.6 percent to 6.5 cents with 5.85 million shares traded.