



Biotech Daily

Wednesday February 10, 2021

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * ASX, BIOTECH UP: PROTEOMICS UP 7%; ALTERITY DOWN 12.5%
- * FEDERAL \$8m FOR NEURO-FIBROMATOSIS
- * MTP CONNECT: \$200k FOR CARDIOVASCULAR DEVICE DEVELOPMENT
- * MACH7: HONG KONG \$4.2m ORDERS IN 7 MONTHS, \$10m TOTAL
- * AVECHO RAISES \$5m
- * MEDIBIO RAISES \$3m, SHARE PLAN FOR \$500k
- * TELIX, HEIDELBERG UNI UROLOGY CANCER COLLABORATION
- * RESAPP FILES COUGH SOFTWARE FDA PRE-SUBMISSION
- * PATRYS BEGINS LARGE-SCALE PAT-DX1 PRODUCTION
- * JAPAN PATENT FOR REGENEUS PROGENZA FOR INFLAMMATION, PAIN
- * ANATARA COMPLETES UNMARKETABLE PARCEL BUY-BACK
- * MGC OPENS ON LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE
- * ALTHEA SHIPS \$1m MARIJUANA OIL TO GERMANY
- * BARINGS DILUTED TO 12.5% OF CYCLOPHARM
- * CHEMICAL OVERSEAS DILUTED TO 10% OF CYCLOPHARM
- * REGAL FUNDS TAKES 11% OF MICRO-X
- * SANDON TAKES 11% OF IDT
- * CARL CHARALAMBOUS TAKES 6% IN EXOPHARM; AMENDMENT
- * OPTISCAN APPOINTS RON SONG DIRECTOR

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.52 percent on Wednesday February 10, 2021, with the ASX200 up 35.7 points to 6,856.9 points. Seventeen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 11 fell and 12 traded unchanged.

Proteomics was the best, up 5.5 cents or 6.7 percent to 87.5 cents, with 488,991 shares traded, followed by Uscom up 6.25 percent to 17 cents, with 401,168 shares traded. Kazia was up 5.4 percent; Compumedics and Prescient improved more than four percent; Immutep and Pro Medicus were up more than three percent; Antisense and Starpharma rose more than two percent; Avita, Cyclopharm, Next Science and Paradigm were up more than one percent; with Clinuvel, Cochlear, CSL, Cynata, Orthocell and Polynovo up by less than one percent.

Yesterday's 23.1 percent best, Alterity, led the falls, down 0.6 cents or 12.5 percent to 4.2 cents, with 74.3 million shares traded. Genetic Signatures and Optiscan fell four percent or more; Impedimed, Opthea and Patrys lost three percent or more; Medical Developments, Telix and Universal Biosensors shed more than two percent; Pharmaxis fell 1.1 percent; with Nanosonics and Resmed down by less than one percent.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, MEDICAL RESEARCH FUTURE FUND

The Federal Government says it will provide \$8 million to fund research into neuro-fibromatosis.

A media release from the Minister for Health Greg Hunt said that neuro-fibromatosis was a genetic condition most common in children and young adults which caused tumors to form around nerves, including in the brain and spinal cord, leading to cancer, blindness, deafness and chronic pain.

Mr Hunt said that a \$7 million would be provided under the Medical Research Future Fund Neurofibromatosis Research Grant Opportunity for the development of new interventions and improvements in healthcare and outcomes for people living with neuro-fibromatosis. The media release said the Federal Government would provide \$1 million over four years to the Children's Tumor Foundation, which provided advocacy, research and support for families with children who live with neurofibromatosis.

MTP CONNECT, AUSTRALIA CARDIOVASCULAR ALLIANCE

MTP Connect says it has provided \$200,000 to the Australian Cardiovascular Alliance to fund the Cardiovascular Device Clinical Trial Collaborative Project.

MTP Connect said the project was a collaboration between the Australian Cardiovascular Alliance, the University of Sydney's Charles Perkins Institute and Sydney's Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute.

The organization said the project would survey the medical technology capabilities and resources specifically available to support cardiovascular medical technology development in Australia.

MTP said the project would develop a clinical trial service to support cardiovascular-related clinical trials on medical devices and establish an online searchable portal to improve collaboration and promote the development of medical devices for cardiovascular disease in Australia.

MACH7 TECHNOLOGIES

Mach7 says the Hospital Authority of Hong Kong has paid \$4.2 million for its enterprise imaging data management software since July 1, 2020.

In 2018, Mach7 said it had a five-year, up-to \$15 million contract with the Authority to provide the software system and had received \$10 million to date.

The company said its software system enabled image receiving, transfer, storage and viewing across healthcare providers, and would be installed at Hong Kong's 43 public hospitals and institutions, 121 outpatient clinics "by June this year".

Mach7 said that in addition to the \$15 million agreement, it had received \$1.8 million in purchase orders, including an order for the use of the Mach7 system in ophthalmology. Mach7 was up 4.5 cents or 3.1 percent to \$1.50.

AVECHO (FORMERLY PHOSPHAGENICS)

Avecho says it has "firm commitments" to raise \$5.06 million in a placement at 2.2 cents a share, with one free attaching option for every two shares purchased.

Avecho said the price was a 9.67 percent discount to the five-day volume weighted average price to February 4, 2021 and the attaching options would be exercisable at 3.5 cents each until December 31, 2021.

The company said the funds would be used for a phase II/III trial of its cannabinoid products for registration, with \$1 million from Horizon 3 Biotech, and the balance placed by lead manager and underwriter Peak Asset Management.

Avecho fell 0.2 cents or 7.4 percent to 2.5 cents with 36.7 million shares traded.

MEDIBIO

Medibio says it has raised \$3.0 million in a placement at 0.9 cents a share and hopes to raise a further \$500,000 in a share place at the same price.

Medibio said that the share price was an 11.63 percent discount to the 15-day volume weighted average price.

The company said investors would receive one free attaching option for every four shares purchased, exercisable at 1.5 cents each by February 24, 2024.

Medibio managing-director Claude Solitario said the funds would progress the depressive burden trial, accelerate commercialization of Mebsleep and ilumen and complete the development of a smartphone application.

The company said the share plan would have a record date of February 9, open on February 24 and close on March 26, 2021.

Medibio was up 0.1 cents or 11.1 percent to one cent with 27.8 million shares traded.

TELIX PHARMACEUTICALS

Telix says it will develop therapeutic and diagnostic radio-pharmaceuticals for urologic oncology with Germany's Heidelberg University Hospital.

Telix said the collaboration would develop new conjugates and constructs for diagnostic and therapeutic use in cancers with the aim to identify candidates and collect data to proceed to in-human trials.

Heidelberg University Nuclear Medicine Department vice chair Prof Frederik Giesel said the collaboration would work on diagnostic and therapeutic agents and novel radionuclide combinations "to improve patient care in urologic oncology, particularly prostate cancer".

Telix fell 10 cents or 2.3 percent to \$4.30.

RESAPP HEALTH

Resapp says it has filed a US Food and Drug Administration pre-submission package for its lower respiratory tract illness detection software.

Resapp said the software was a prescription-only smartphone application which recorded and analysed cough sounds to the identification of patients with possible lower respiratory tract illness in children and adults.

The company said it would schedule a pre-submission meeting with the FDA to discuss potential approval pathways for the application and any further requirements.

Resapp managing-director Dr Tony Keating said that filing the “pre-submission package and meeting request is an important first step in our re-engagement with the FDA that will provide a valuable opportunity for the company to discuss the potential pathways for the clearance of our cough-based analysis technology for use in the US”.

Resapp was up 0.1 cents or 1.5 percent to 6.8 cents with 1.9 million shares traded.

PATRYS

Patrys says it will start large-scale manufacturing of its PAT-DX1 for trials, including its first-in-human trial scheduled to begin by July 2022.

Patrys said PAT-DX1 was a humanized form of DNA damage-repair antibody deoxymab 3E10 which had been shown to cross the blood brain barrier, reduce tumor size, and increase survival in multiple animal models of cancers and cancer metastases (BD: May 30, Jul 22, 2019; Mar 16, 2020).

The company said it had selected an optimized stable cell line which could “deliver reproducible and consistent production of PAT-DX1 protein over time”.

Patrys managing-director Dr James Campbell said that “establishing a stable, high-yield cell line suitable for commercial production of clinical-grade material is one of the critical steps of any antibody development program”.

Dr Campbell said the company would scale-up the production of PAT-DX1 in large fermenters by July 2021 and complete good laboratory practice toxicology studies by January 2022 before beginning human clinical studies.

Patrys fell 0.1 cents or 3.6 percent to 2.7 cents with 34.3 million shares traded.

REGENEUS

Regeneus says the Japanese Patent Office has granted a patent for its stem cell technology Progenza for inflammatory conditions and pain treatment.

Regeneus said the patent, titled ‘Therapeutics using adipose cells and cell secretions’ would protect its intellectual property until 2032.

Last year, the company said the US Patent and Trademark Office had allowed a patent covering its Progenza stem cell technology for inflammatory conditions including respiratory disease (BD: Mar 23, 2020).

Today, Regeneus chief executive officer Karolis Rosickas said that the “patent supported the company’s plan to explore additional licences for Progenza to treat other indications”.

“Regeneus continues to explore all opportunities to address the gap in the projected \$85.5 billion global pain management drugs market with our disease modifying stem cell technologies,” Mr Rosickas said.

Regeneus was up half a cent or 4.8 percent to 11 cents.

[ANATARA LIFESCIENCES](#)

Anatara says it has bought back 211,413 shares for \$37,632 in unmarketable parcel shares held by an undisclosed number of investors at 17.8 cents a share.

Anatara chief executive officer Steven Lydeamore told Biotech Daily that the company was not required by the ASX to release the number of shareholders that participated in the buy-back.

Anatara said that at the record date of December 11, 2020 the share price was 19 cents and an unmarketable parcel was deemed to be 2,631 shares or fewer, representing a total value of less than \$500 (BD: Dec 14, 2020).

The company said shareholders who participated in the buy-back would receive payment from their shares after February 12, 2021.

Anatara said it would have 70,238,523 shares available for trading following the cancellation of the shares.

Anatara was untraded at 19 cents.

[MGC PHARMACEUTICALS](#)

MGC says it has opened on the London Stock Exchange following a GBP6.5 million (\$A11.6 million) 'oversubscribed' placement at 1.475 British pence (2.64 Australian cents) (BD: Feb 4, 2021).

According to the London Stock Exchange, MGC closed last night at 2.38 pence (4.25 Australian cents).

MGC was up half a cent or 13.9 percent to 4.1 cents with 76.4 million shares traded.

[ALTHEA GROUP](#)

Althea says it has shipped 2,000 units of its medical marijuana oil products worth \$1,000,000 to the Frankfurt-based Nimbus Health GmbH for distribution in Germany. Althea said it would receive payment for products supplied to Nimbus, along with 50 percent of the net profit (BD: Nov 12, 2019, May 1, 2020).

Althea chief executive officer Joshua Fegan said that "shipping our first products to Germany is a huge milestone for our European expansion plans and builds on the encouraging results to date from our UK operations".

Althea was up seven cents or 14.0 percent to 57 cents with eight million shares traded.

[CYCLOPHARM](#)

London's Barings Acceptance says its 11,433,424 share-holding in Cyclopharm has been diluted from 14.61 percent to 12.45 percent.

Barings said that it was diluted on February 1, 2021 following Cyclopharm's \$30 million placement (BD: Jan 25, 2021).

Cyclopharm was up three cents or 1.1 percent to \$2.78.

[CYCLOPHARM](#)

London's Chemical Overseas says its 9,176,470 share-holding in Cyclopharm has been diluted from 11.73 percent to 9.99 percent.

Chemical Overseas said that it was diluted on February 1, 2021 following Cyclopharm's \$30 million placement (BD: Jan 25, 2021).

MICRO-X

Regal Funds Management says it has increased its substantial shareholding in Micro-X from 18,773,972 shares (6.01%) to 48,974,294 shares (10.90%).

Sydney's Regal Funds said it bought and sold shares between April 28, 2020 and February 5, 2021 with the single largest purchase 26,470,589 shares for \$9,000,000 or 34 cents a share.

Earlier this month, Micro-X said it has raised \$30.5 million in a placement at 34 cents a share (BD: Feb 1, 2021).

Micro-X was up half a cent or 1.45 percent to 35 cents.

IDT AUSTRALIA

Sydney's Sandon Capital says it has increased its substantial shareholding in IDT from 24,069,512 shares (10.1%) to 26,769,292 shares (11.2%).

Sandon said that between February 20, 2020 and February 5, 2021 it bought 2,699,780 shares for \$520,299 or an average of 19.3 cents a share.

IDT fell half a cent or 2.4 percent to 20.5 cents.

EXOPHARM

Carl Charalambous says he became substantial in Exopharm with 7,253,828 shares (5.02%), and later increased his holding to 8,653,912 shares (6.21%).

The Brisbane-based Mr Charalambous said he had amended his substantial shareholder notices filed on January 4, 2021, saying he became substantial in Exopharm with 4,227,254 shares (5.05%) and later increased his holding to 6,292,941 shares (6.077%) (BD: Jan 17, 2020).

In the amended substantial shareholder notices, Mr Charalambous said that he became substantial on December 21, 2020 and increased his holding on January 27, 2021.

Mr Charalambous said that between June 25, 2020 and January 27, 2021 he bought and sold shares with the single largest acquisition 2,276,212 shares for \$546,291 or 24 cents a share on September 8, 2020, when the company was trading around 32 cents.

Exopharm was unchanged at 75 cents.

OPTISCAN

Optiscan says it has appointed Ron Song as a non-executive director.

Optiscan said Mr Song had expertise in management, sales and marketing in Australia and Singapore and was previously the managing-director of Premium Automobiles Pte Ltd and an advisor to Fabulous Image Lifestyle.

Optiscan fell half a cent or four percent to 12 cents.