



Biotech Daily

Thursday March 4, 2021

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: IMPEDIMED UP 9%; OSPREY DOWN 11%**
- * **4D RAISES \$40m, PLAN FOR \$3m, \$29m XVD LUNG SCANNER GRANT**
- * **IMPEDIMED: '200k SOZO TESTS MILESTONE'**
- * **WEHI: FLT3L INCREASES DENDRITIC CELL FUNCTION FOR CANCER**
- * **MEDGATE TRIALS RESAPPDY FOR SWISS TELEMEDICINE**
- * **CORRECTION: GENETIC TECHNOLOGIES**
- * **ELIXINOL REQUESTS 'POTENTIAL TRANSACTION' TRADING HALT**
- * **RACE FOUNDER DR WILLIAM GARNER REDUCES, DILUTED TO 10%**
- * **APEIRON, CHRISTIAN ANGERMAYER DILUTED TO 9% OF BIONOMICS**
- * **ECOFIBRE APPOINTS PROF BRUCE ROBINSON DIRECTOR**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 0.84 percent on Thursday March 4, 2021, with the ASX200 down 57.3 points to 6,760.7 points. Five of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 28 fell and seven traded unchanged. All three Big Caps were down.

Impedimed was the best, up one cent or 9.1 percent to 12 cents, with 1.9 million shares traded. Prescient climbed 4.4 percent; Uscom was up 3.2 percent; Cynata rose 1.5 percent; with Clinuvel up 0.5 percent.

Osprey led the falls, down 0.2 cents or 11.1 percent to 1.6 cents, with 1.8 million shares traded. Proteomics lost 9.6 percent; Actinogen was down 8.7 percent; Immutep and Medical Developments were down more than five percent; CSL, LBT, Oncosil, Opthea, Optiscan, Orthocell and Pharmaxis fell more than four percent; Avita, Cochlear, Imugene, Polynovo, Pro Medicus and Volpara were down three percent or more; Alterity, Nanosonics, Neuren, Paradigm, Resonance and Telix shed more than two percent; Cyclopharm, Genetic Signatures, Kazia, Nova Eye, Resmed and Starpharma were down more than one percent; with Next Science down by 0.4 percent.

4D MEDICAL

4D says it has raised \$40 million in a placement at \$1.55 a share, hopes to raise a further \$3 million in a share plan and has a \$28.9 million Federal Government grant.

4D said that the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) Frontier Health and Medical Research Initiative five-year grant awarded to the Australian Lung Health Initiative (ALHI), a consortium incorporated and led by the company.

4D said the \$1.55 placement and share plan price was a 10.4 percent discount to the last closing price on February 25, 2021.

The company said the share plan for investors at the record date of March 3 would open on March 15 and close on March 29, 2021.

4D said the funds from the capital raising and the grant would be used for the development and commercialization of the world's first XVD lung function scanner.

4D chief executive officer Prof Andreas Fouras told Biotech Daily the XVD was a progression on the core x-ray velocimetry (XV) in that it was a dedicated system or XVD. The company said the scanner would be "the world's first dedicated lung function scanner" and would provide low dose, contrast-free and rapid lung analysis for adults and children. 4D said the development of the XVD scanner was a joint venture between 4D, the University of Adelaide and the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute with Prof Fouras as chief investigator.

Prof Fouras said the company would have full commercialization rights for XVD scanners and lead sales and marketing for the products and expected to start commercializing the first generation XVD scanner in 2023, two years before the generation two version, expected to be commercialized in 2025.

"The ALHI has already delivered a generation one concept scanner using the funding from the MRFF stage one grant awarded in April 2019," Prof Fouras said.

"This placement and [share plan] will provide us with the funds needed to execute the long-term commercialization strategy for XVD Scanners, which will open up an additional revenue stream for the business and drive the adoption of [x-ray velocimetry lung ventilation analysis software] at medical institutions.

4D said that Bell Potter Securities and E&P Corporate Advisory were joint lead managers and bookrunners to the placement.

On Monday, the Federal Government said it would provide \$99 million for three programs, including \$28,867,540 for the Australian Lung Health Initiative project titled '4D Functional Diagnosis: A new frontier in lung health for children' (BD: Mar 1, 2021).

4D fell eight cents or 4.6 percent to \$1.65 with 1.5 million shares traded.

IMPEDIMED

Impedimed says more than 200,000 of its Sozo bioimpedance spectroscopy fluid and tissue analysis tests have been administered to patients since October 2017.

Impedimed said that it took 32 months to achieve the milestone of 100,000 patient tests with the next 100,000 patient tests completed in 13 months, with 28,000 tests performed in the three months to December 31, 2020, alone.

Impedimed managing-director Richard Carreon said that the administration of 200,000 Sozo tests was "a significant milestone for our company, but more importantly for the patients whose lives have been dramatically impacted by the reduction in lymphoedema rates from Sozo testing".

"We are building a large data set which will be very valuable in providing new insights into the course and care of a large number of chronic disease states," Mr Carreon said.

Impedimed was up one cent or 9.1 percent to 12 cents with 1.9 million shares traded.

WALTER AND ELIZA HALL INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute says pre-clinical research has shown how the Flt3L hormone increases dendritic cell production to fight cancer and infection.

WEHI said that dendritic cells were immune cells that activated 'killer' T cells, which fight viral infections and trigger a response to cancers such as melanoma and bowel cancer.

The Institute said that the FMS-like tyrosine kinase 3 ligand (FLT3L) was an endogenous small molecule that functioned as a cytokine and growth factor that increased the number of immune cells (dendritic cells) by activating the haematopoietic progenitors.

WEHI said that research led by Dr Shalin Naik used "a single-cell barcoding technique" to study developing immune cells at a single cell level to understand how the body used these cells to trigger immune responses.

The research, titled 'Single-cell analyses reveal the clonal and molecular aetiology of Flt3L-induced emergency dendritic cell development' was published in Nature Cell Biology and was available at <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41556-021-00636-7>.

Dr Naik said that "we have known that the Flt3L hormone increases the number of dendritic cells for decades but now there is a focus on applying this knowledge to cancer immunotherapy and potentially to infection immunotherapy as well".

"By using cellular barcoding, where we insert short synthetic DNA sequences, [which] we call barcodes inside cells, we were able to determine which cells produced dendritic cells in pre-clinical models," Dr Naik said. "As a result of this research, we now better understand the actions of the Flt3L hormone that is currently used in cancer immunotherapy trials, and how it naturally helps the body fight cancer and infection."

"This is a first step to design better precision immunotherapy treatments for cancer," Dr Naik said. "The next stage in our research is to create dendritic cell factories using our new knowledge, to produce millions to billions of these infection fighting cells and then use those in immunotherapy treatments."

WEHI said that the research had laid "the foundation for future studies into the body's response to environmental stressors, such as injury, infection or cancer, at a single cell level".

RESAPP HEALTH

Resapp says Medgate has started a three-month pilot trial of the Resappdx smartphone acute respiratory diagnostic test within its tele-medicine services.

Last year, Resapp said it had a six-month joint development and pilot agreement with the Basel, Switzerland-based Medgate to integrate its Resappdx into Medgate's telemedicine services (BD: Nov 9, 2020).

Today, the company said that both parties would assess the impact of Resappdx on Medgate's telehealth service through a number of key performance indicators and would enter into broader negotiations pending a successful outcome of the trial.

Resapp fell 0.1 cents or 1.7 percent to 5.8 cents with 3.8 million shares traded.

GENETIC TECHNOLOGIES

Last night's edition incorrectly reported that Genetic Technologies was up 0.1 cents or 1.4 percent to 7.1 cents.

In fact, Genetic Technologies was up 0.1 cents or 9.09 percent to 1.2 cents.

The mistake was made by the Hump Day sub-editor who apparently had the hump.

Today, Genetic Technologies fell 0.2 cents or 16.7 percent to one cent with 67.2 million shares traded.

[ELIXINOL GLOBAL](#)

Elixinol has requested a trading halt pending “an announcement in relation to a potential transaction”.

Trading will resume on March 8, 2021 or on an earlier an announcement.

Elixinol last traded at 19.5 cents.

[RACE ONCOLOGY](#)

Race founder Dr William Garner says he has reduced his substantial holding in the company from 13,930,078 shares (11.41%) to 13,399,559 shares (10.12%).

The San Juan, Puerto Rico-based Dr Garner said that between on July 16, 2020 and March 3, 2021 he exercised options, sold shares and was diluted, with the single largest sale 1,420,907 shares for \$4,249,798 or \$2.99 a share and exercised 1,757,575 options to shares for \$325,000 or 18.5 cents a share.

Race fell 15 cents or 3.8 percent to \$3.76 with 757,011 shares traded.

[BIONOMICS](#)

Apeiron Investment Group and Christian Angermayer say their 75,833,000 shares in Bionomics have been diluted from 10.31 percent to 8.97 percent.

Malta’s Apeiron and London’s Mr Angermayer said they were diluted on March 2, 2021 following the completion of a placement.

Last month, Bionomics says it had raised \$15,991,634 at 14.5 cents a share for a phase IIb trial of its BNC210 for post-traumatic stress disorder (BD: Feb 9, 2021).

Bionomics fell 6.5 cents or 20 percent to 26 cents with 2.9 million shares traded.

[ECOFIBRE](#)

Ecofibre says it has appointed Prof Bruce Robinson as a director, effective from March 4, 2021.

Ecofibre said Prof Robinson was currently a director of Cochlear, Mayne Pharma and Qbiotics and the chair of the Federal Government’s National Health and Medical Research Council.

The company said Prof Robinson was previously the dean of University of Sydney’s Sydney Medical School, head of medicine at Sydney’s Royal North Shore Hospital and head of the cancer genetics laboratory at the Kolling Institute for Medical Research.

Ecofibre fell two cents or 1.6 percent to \$1.23.