



Biotech Daily

Monday May 24, 2021

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX UP, BIOTECH DOWN: ACTINOGEN UP 37%; IMMUTEP DOWN 7%**
- * **CYNATA: 1st PATIENT ENROLLED IN CYMERUS LUNG TRIAL**
- * **CE MARK FOR USCOM SPIROSONIC AIR**
- * **ADALTA, GE WORK ON PRE-CLINICAL GRANZYME B IMAGING**
- * **EMVISION IMPROVES BRAIN SCANNER**
- * **ANTEO ADDS BRISBANE EUGENI TEST STRIP MANUFACTURING**
- * **RESONANCE APPLIES FOR ANTISENSE OLIGONUCLEOTIDES PATENT**
- * **BARD1 APPLIES FOR EXO-NET, SUB-B2M PATENTS**
- * **CRESO 15m DIRECTOR, STAFF, EVERBLU SHARES; HALUCENEX AGM**
- * **TDM TAKES 25% OF SOMNOMED**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.22 percent on Monday May 24, 2021, with the ASX200 up 15.6 points to 7,045.9 points. Fifteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 17 fell and eight traded unchanged. All three Big Caps were up.

Actinogen was the best on no news, up as much as 2.9 cents or 41.4 percent to 9.9 cents before closing up 2.6 cents or 37.1 percent at 9.6 cents, with 72.0 million shares traded.

Alterity and Antisense climbed more than seven percent; Next Science improved 6.3 percent; Cynata, Neuren, Resmed and Uscom were up more than three percent; Clinuvel, Mesoblast, Nanosonics, Pharmaxis and Starpharma rose more than two percent; Cochlear, CSL and Medical Developments were up one percent or more; with Pro Medicus and Volpara up by less than one percent.

Immutep led the falls, down four cents or 6.6 percent to 56.5 cents, with 6.5 million shares traded. Osprey lost 5.9 percent; Kazia, Optiscan and Paradigm fell more than four percent; LBT was down 3.7 percent; Amplia, Compumedics, Cyclopharm, Oncosil, Opthea, Orthocell, Polynovo, Proteomics and Universal Biosensors shed two percent or more; with Avita and Genetic Signatures down by less than one percent.

CYNATA THERAPEUTICS

Cynata says it has enrolled the first of 24-patients for its 'Mend' Cymerus mesenchymal stem cells trial for adult Covid-19 and respiratory failure patients in intensive care.

Last year, Cynata said it had opened enrolment for a Covid-19 trial (BD: Aug 24, 2020).

Today, Cynata chief executive officer Dr Ross Macdonald told Biotech Daily that "the reduction in patient numbers was due to our social distancing, mask-wearing, lockdown and other measures taken by governments to minimize the spread of Covid-19".

"We have expanded the indications from patients with Covid-19 to anyone in intensive care units with respiratory failure," Dr Macdonald said.

Cynata said that the open label, randomized controlled trial in New South Wales and Victoria would investigate early efficacy of Cymerus mesenchymal stem cells with 12 patients randomized to receive Cymerus infusions with standard-of-care and the remaining 12 would receive standard of care treatment only.

The company said the primary efficacy endpoint would be the trajectory of the measure of hypoxemia, or the low level of oxygen in the blood, caused by compromised lung function by day-7, as well as safety and tolerability up to day-28.

Cynata was up two cents or 3.4 percent to 60.5 cents.

USCOM

Uscom says it has Conformité Européenne (CE) approval for its digital ultra-sonic Spirosonic Air spirometer for lung function.

Uscom said its Spirosonic Air used ultrasonic technology and Bluetooth wireless communications for assessment of asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, occupational lung disease and post Covid-19 syndrome.

The company said Spirosonic Air could connect wirelessly to a mobile phone with Myair, its Spiroreporter software, allowed remote telemetric and cloud-based diagnosis, monitoring and homecare, and connectivity to Blue Sky pay-per-use revenue system.

Uscom was up half a cent or 3.7 percent to 14 cents.

ADALTA

Adalta says it has extended its agreement with GE Healthcare for its I-bodies platform from development to pre-clinical development as a potential diagnostic imaging agent.

Last year, Adalta said it had progressed its collaboration with Chicago's GE Healthcare to further characterize "I-bodies" antibodies and previously told Biotech Daily that I-bodies were named from the intermediate group of immunoglobulin or immunoglobulin-like domains (BD: Jul 7, 2016; Sep 21, 2020).

Today, the company said it had identified multiple I-bodies binding to the granzyme B enzyme, which could be used as a positron emission tomography diagnostic agent.

Adalta said the positron emission tomography diagnostic was designed to show if the immune cells were producing the granzyme B enzyme in tumors.

The company said the detection of granzyme B would show "whether cancer immunotherapies, such as checkpoint inhibitors [were] working effectively to reactivate the immune system after the tumor was suppressed".

Adalta said it would provide support for the manufacturing of I-bodies for the pre-clinical and clinical testing of the imaging candidates, and it would earn additional research fees ahead of its next milestone payment due, assuming technical success on achieving pre-clinical proof-of-concept and selection of a lead I-body candidate.

Adalta was unchanged at 13.5 cents.

EMVISION MEDICAL DEVICES

Emvision says it has made several improvements to its brain scanner for stroke, including the addition of vector network analyser (VNA) to its headset design.

Emvision said the improvements in product design were to address manufacturability, reliability and performance of the device, with the first units for clinical use and commercialization expected to be fabricated by October 2021.

The company said scanners were intended to be portable to the stroke patient's bedside. Emvision was unchanged at \$2.85.

ANTEOTECH

Anteo says it hopes to begin Eugeni test strip manufacturing at its Brisbane facility to provide an additional 12 million test strips a year beginning early next year.

Anteo said the increased test-strip capacity was forecast to provide a total of 32 test-strips a year to meet an expected increase in demand over the next three to five years.

Last month and last week, the company said it had raised \$12 million in a placement and \$8 million in a share plan at 26 cents a share to fund the roll-out of its Eugeni Covid-19 antigen rapid test (BD: Apr 28, May 20, 2021).

Today, Anteo said the facility would include a reel-to-reel dispensing platform, reel-to-card or reel laminator and high-throughput strip cutter located in Brisbane, and it expected the lead time of the procurement to be about six to seven months.

Anteo fell 2.5 cents or 7.25 percent to 32 cents with 10.8 million shares traded.

RESONANCE HEALTH

Resonance says it has filed a patent application for antisense oligonucleotides to target a "gene associated with viral inflammatory and malignant disease".

Resonance said that application was filed with IP (intellectual property) Australia as part of an international Patent Co-operation Treaty application.

The company said the patent, titled 'Method for Treating [Pleiotrophic Protein] Associated Disease', if granted would protect its antisense oligonucleotides until May 19, 2041.

Last week, Resonance said that it had selected AS3 as its lead antisense oligonucleotide compound which had shown "significant viral suppression" in a pre-clinical hepatitis B virus model (BD: May 17, 2021).

Today, the company said the patent would cover its use of a "method for treating viral, inflammatory and malignant diseases, including hepatitis B virus.

Resonance was unchanged at 19 cents.

BARD1 LIFE SCIENCES

Bard1 says it has been granted Australian patents for its molecular net exosome capture technology Exo-Net, and its protein Sub-B2M technology.

Bard1 said the first patent, titled 'Methods relating to tumour-derived extracellular vesicles', would protect its intellectual property on Exo-Net technology until 2042.

The company said the patent for the Exo-Net technology would cover the methods of detecting and/or isolating tumour-derived extracellular vesicles from a sample.

Bard1 said the second patent, titled 'Methods of analysing a sample' would cover the methods of using a binding molecule in Sub B2M-based assays which increased the sensitivity and specificity for cancer detection until 2042.

Bard1 was unchanged at \$2.42.

CRESO PHARMA

Creso shareholders will vote to issue 11,000,000 director and staff shares, as well as 3,600,000 shares and 12,000,000 options to related party Everblu Capital.

Creso said that Everblu was a company controlled by its chair Adam Blumenthal and would receive the shares and options in relation to the recent placement which raised \$18 million at 19 cents a share (BD: Mar 26, 2021).

The company said that Everblu would receive a fee of \$1,080,00 as six percent of the placement value, along with the 3,600,000 broker shares and 12,000,000 broker options exercisable at 38 cents each within three years.

Creso said it proposed to issue 500,000 shares each to directors Boaz Wachtel and James Ellingford for their "out of scope services" to the company, as well as 10,000,000 shares to "retain" commercial market access director and head of Swiss operations Jorge Wernli, the spouse of former director Dr Miriam Halperin Wernli.

The company said it requested shareholder approval for the issue of 46,802,872 shares and up to 29,251,795 shares and 17,551,077 performance shares for the Halucenex acquisition, as well as ratify the issue of 24,000,000 consultant options to David Deslauriers in three equal tranches exercisable at 23.5 cents, 27 cents and 30 cents respectively by January 11, 2023.

Creso said it would ask shareholders to ratify the prior issue of 17,263,158 lender shares to Chifley Portfolios Pty Ltd, Jamber Investments Pty Ltd and L1 Capital Opportunities Master Fund and approve the issue of 4,315,790 lender options exercisable at 38 cents within 12 months.

The company said the meeting would vote on the remuneration report, to implement an incentive plan, re-elect director Mr Wachtel and renew the 10 percent placement capacity. The meeting will be held at Quest, 176 Adelaide Terrace, East Perth on June 24, 2021 at 12pm (AWST).

Creso fell half a cent or 3.1 percent to 15.5 cents with 13.0 million shares traded.

SOMNOMED

TDM Growth Partners says it has increased its substantial holding in Somnomed from 20,837,628 shares (25.18%) to 20,855,620 shares (25.20%).

The Sydney-based TDM Growth Partners said it bought 17,992 shares for \$2.12 a share. TDM said the shares were held directly, by TDMAM Pty Ltd, Madleowill Investments and Zoolander Investments.

Somnomed fell nine cents or 4.1 percent to \$2.12.