



Biotech Daily

Wednesday June 16, 2021

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX UP, BIOTECH DOWN: OSPREY UP 14%; ACTINOGEN DOWN 16%**
- * **PATRY'S: 'PAT-DX1 REDUCES BRAIN METASTASES 93% IN MICE'**
- * **AVITA Q4 GUIDANCE UP 14% TO \$12.5m**
- * **CSIRO APPOINTS PROF BRONWYN FOX CHIEF SCIENTIST**
- * **BIONICS QUEENSLAND PRIZES**
- * **ORTHOCELL: CHINA, NZ CELGRO PATENTS**
- * **RHYTHM: SONIC HEALTHCARE JOINS COLOSTAT TRIAL**
- * **CRESO REQUESTS 'MATERIAL ACQUISITION' TRADING HALT**
- * **CSL APPOINTS ALISON WATKINS DIRECTOR**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market edged up 0.09 percent on Wednesday June 16, 2021, with the ASX200 up 6.7 points to 7,386.2 points. Ten of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 24 fell and six traded unchanged. All three Big Caps were up.

Osprey was the best, up 0.2 cents or 14.3 percent to 1.6 cents, with 7.9 million shares traded. Avita climbed 12.4 percent; Telix rose six percent; Impedimed improved 4.55 percent; Prescient and Pro Medicus were up more than three percent; Nanosonics, Neuren, Polynovo and Resmed were up more than one percent; with Cochlear, CSL and Cyclopharm up by less than one percent.

Actinogen led the falls for the second day in a row, down 2.5 cents or 16.1 percent to 13 cents, with 43.9 million shares traded. Resonance retreated 8.8 percent; Dimerix, Oncosil and Uscom lost more than six percent; Clinuvel and Imugene were down more than five percent; Amplia, Genetic Signatures, LBT, Next Science and Patry's fell four percent or more; Cynata, Kazia, Pharmaxis and Proteomics were down more than three percent; Mesoblast and Starpharma shed more than two percent; Immutep, Paradigm and Volpara were down more than one percent; with Medical Developments, Opthea and Orthocell down by less than one percent.

PATRYS

Patrys says that pre-clinical data for its deoxymab antibody PAT-DX1 shows its ability to cross the blood-brain barrier and significantly inhibit growth of brain cancer.

Patrys said the research, titled 'ENT2 facilitates brain endothelial cell penetration and blood-brain barrier transport by a tumor-targeting anti-DNA autoantibody' was published in the Journal of Clinical Investigation - Insight and an abstract was available at:

<https://insight.jci.org/articles/view/145875>.

The company said the research with Yale University showed that PAT-DX1 was able to inhibit the growth of tumors in three different mouse models of cancer.

Last year, Patrys said that research at the New Haven, Connecticut-based Yale School of Medicine showed that PAT-DX-NP was able to cross the blood-brain barrier and target triple-negative breast cancer brain metastases in mice (BD: Mar 2, 2020).

Today, Patrys chief executive officer Dr James Campbell, a study co-author, told Biotech Daily that "in the brain metastases model, with seven mice in each group, after four weeks of treatment, the mice treated with PAT-DX1 showed a 93 percent reduction in metastases, compared to the controls treated with saline".

The company said that like the full-sized 3E10 antibody, the PAT-DX1 humanized fragment was able to cross the blood-brain barrier, localize to both primary and secondary tumors in the brain, and then selectively kill cancer cells by blocking their DNA damage repair systems which showed the potential for its deoxymabs for brain cancers.

Patrys said that in two different mouse models of glioblastoma were tested showing a 47 percent and 25 percent improvement respectively.

The company said a third mouse model was designed to replicate metastases of breast cancer into the brain "considered one of the most challenging brain tumor models to treat". "The number of tumors established in the brain was significantly reduced ($p < 0.01$) when animals were treated with PAT-DX1 and this reduction in brain cancer metastases resulted in a statistically significant 45 percent ($p < 0.002$) improvement in median survival," the company said.

Dr Campbell said that the company was impressed with "the robust scientific evidence and rationale that is backing the development of our deoxymab drug platform".

"This publication ... is further validation of the pioneering position that Patrys and its collaborators at Yale School of Medicine have established with its deoxymab platform," Dr Campbell said. "Glioblastoma and [triple-negative breast cancer] brain metastases are very difficult to treat and the prognosis for patients with these cancers is generally poor."

Dr Campbell said the company was "on-track for the first-in-man study of our lead deoxymab asset, PAT-DX1 [by July 2022]".

Patrys fell 0.2 cents or 4.9 percent to 3.9 cents with 231.0 million shares traded.

AVITA MEDICAL

Avita says it has raised its revenue guidance for the three months to June 30, 2021 by 14.3 percent to \$US9.5 million (\$A12.35 million) to \$9.7 million (\$A12.60 million).

Avita said it had already passed the previous fourth quarter revenue guidance of \$US8.2 million to \$US8.6 million.

The company said that commercial revenue from its Recell spray-on skin for burns was \$US6.0 million to \$US6.2 million with a further \$US3.5 million for Recell from the US Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority.

Avita said the revised guidance was a 55 percent to 60 percent increase over the year to June 30, 2020 and it expected to release its June 30, 2021 results on August 25, 2021.

Avita was up 62 cents or 12.4 percent to \$5.63 with 1.7 million shares traded.

COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation says it has appointed Prof Bronwyn Fox as its chief scientist who will take up the role 'later this year'.

A CSIRO spokesperson told Biotech Daily that Prof Fox would be replacing Prof Cathy Foley who has been appointed Australia's chief scientist, but Dr Sarah Pearce had been acting CSIRO chief scientist since the beginning of 2021 (BD: Nov 9, 2020).

The CSIRO said that Prof Fox she began her career with CSIRO about 30 years ago as a research assistant and was the Organization's fourth woman chief scientist.

The Organization said that Prof Fox was most recently Melbourne's Swinburne University of Technology deputy vice-chancellor for research and enterprise.

The CSIRO said that Prof Fox was the founding director of Swinburne's Manufacturing Futures Research Institute.

The Organization said that Prof Fox was currently the chair of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering (Victoria), a fellow of the Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering and a fellow of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute.

According to her LinkedIn page, Prof Fox held a Bachelor of Science from the University of Melbourne, a Doctor of Philosophy in Engineering from Canberra's Australian National University and an executive education qualification from the Institut européen d'administration des affaires (Insead).

BIONICS QUEENSLAND

Bionics Queensland says it is offering Queensland companies four \$50,000 major awards, four early-stage \$8,000 awards and a national in-kind \$25,000 prize.

The non-government not-for-profit Bionics Queensland said that the Bionics Challenge 2021 was "an Australian competition with national and state-level prizes [for] talented inventors, start-ups and [research and development] leaders across Australia.

Bionics Queensland said it was supported by Brisbane's Motor Accident Insurance Commission (MAIC), with Morgans Financial providing \$25,000 advice on capital raising.

The organization said that projects included: bionic mobility such as limb, spine or enabling technologies; bionic senses including vision, hearing, touch or taste; bionic implants and organs; and the brain, neurotech and artificial intelligence.

Insurance commissioner Neil Singleton said that reducing deaths from road crashes was a key focus of MAIC, but thousands suffered serious injuries, amputations and loss of vital functions that bionic innovations could help to improve or restore.

To find out more about Bionics Challenge 2021 or to enter before July 2, 2021, go to:

www.bionicsqueensland.com.au.

ORTHOCELL

Orthocell says that China and New Zealand have granted patents covering the method of using its Celgro collagen platform for soft tissue regeneration.

Orthocell said that the patent, titled 'Sutureless repair of soft tissue', would protect its intellectual property until October 12, 2035.

The company said the patent covered its sutureless repair using Celgro at the tissue injury site, including tendons, ligaments and nerves, acting as a cell scaffold to form a favorable micro-environment encouraging new cell growth.

Orthocell said the patent had been granted in Japan and Australia, with applications progressing in the US and the European Union.

Orthocell fell half a cent or 0.9 percent to 56 cents with 1.2 million shares traded.

RHYTHM BIOSCIENCES

Rhythm says the Sydney-based Sonic Healthcare's primary care division has joined its 1,000-patient trial of its Colostat blood test for the detection of colorectal cancer.

Rhythm said that Sonic had clinicians across New South Wales and Victoria and it had recruited the first patients for the study.

In 2019, the company said the 1,000-patient Colostat trial was a prospective, cross-sectional, multi-centre study comparing Colostat to the faecal immune test, relative to colonoscopy (BD: Feb 20, Mar 18, 2019).

Rhythm fell three cents or 3.1 percent to 95 cents.

CRESO PHARMA

Creso has requested a trading halt "pending an announcement regarding a material acquisition transaction".

Trading will resume on June 18, 2021 or on an earlier announcement.

Creso last traded at 18 cents.

CSL

CSL says it has appointed Alison Watkins as an independent, non-executive director, effective from August 19, 2021.

CSL said Ms Watkins was currently a director of the Reserve Bank of Australia, the "libertarian" Centre for Independent Studies, and the Business Council of Australia.

The company said Ms Watkins was most recently Coca-Cola Amatil's managing- director, and previously Graincorp's chief executive officer as well as a non-executive director at the Australia and New Zealand Banking Group, Woolworths and Just Group.

CSL said Ms Watkins held a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Tasmania.

CSL was up \$1.18 or 0.4 percent to \$302.90 with 643,241 shares traded.