



Biotech Daily

Monday October 25, 2021

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX UP, BIOTECH DOWN: ACTINOGEN UP 9%; NANOSONICS DOWN 4%**
- * **GENETIC SIGNATURES \$12m RECORD Q1 REVENUE**
- * **UNIVERSAL BIOSENSORS: VINMETRICA TO SELL SENTIA; \$1m SALES**
- * **RECCE PHASE I R327 I-V TRIAL APPROVED**
- * **CRESO \$217k SCRIP FOR IMPACTIVE MARIJUANA JOINT PAIN**
- * **MEMPHASYS RECEIVES \$1.4m FEDERAL R&D TAX INCENTIVE**
- * **OPTISCAN RECEIVES \$770k FEDERAL R&D TAX INCENTIVE**
- * **MEMPHASYS: CHINA SPERM SEPARATION PATENT**
- * **NOXOPHARM: AUSTRALIA, EUROPE ALLOW VEYONDA PATENT**
- * **IMPEDIMED REQUESTS CAPITAL RAISING TRADING HALT**
- * **INVEX 2.5m PERFORMANCE SHARES; 60% PAY POOL HIKE AGM**
- * **BLUECHIIP 4.5m M-D ANDREW MCLELLAN PERFORMANCE RIGHTS AGM**
- * **PAUL HOPPER TAKES 7% OF IMUGENE**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.34 percent on Monday October 25, 2021, with the ASX200 up 25.5 points to 7,441.0 points. Fifteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 17 fell, seven traded unchanged and one was untraded.

Actinogen was the best, up one cent or 8.7 percent to 12.5 cents, with 6.3 million shares traded. Antisense and Prescient climbed eight percent or more; Osprey was up 7.6 percent; Imugene improved 6.7 percent; Pharmaxis and Proteomics were up more than four percent; Telix was up 3.1 percent; Nova Eye and Universal Biosensors rose two percent or more; Cynata, Dimerix, Pro Medicus, Resmed and Volpara were up more than one percent; with Neuren up 0.5 percent.

Nanosonics led the falls, down 24 cents or 4.1 percent to \$5.56, with 1.1 million shares traded. Alterity, Kazia, Medical Developments and Uscom lost more than three percent; Compumedics, Genetic Signatures and Orthocell shed more than two percent; Mesoblast, Polynovo and Starpharma were down more than one percent; with Avita, Clinuvel, Cochlear, CSL, Cyclopharm, Next Science, Opthea and Paradigm down less than one percent.

GENETIC SIGNATURES

Genetic Signatures says it has record revenue of \$12.4 million for the three months to September 30, 2021 and has posted a positive cash flow of \$2.9 million for the period. The company said receipts from customers for the three months to September 30, 2021 fell 9.25 percent to \$10.3 million, compared to the same period last year.

Genetic Signatures said that demand for its Easyscreen severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2 (Sars-Cov-2) detection kit in Australia was “the primary contributor to revenue” as the New South Wales and Victoria governments strove to contain outbreaks of the Sars-Cov-2 Delta variants.

Genetic Signatures chief executive officer Dr John Melki said that “strong demand for our proprietary 3base [molecular diagnostic kits] during the pandemic has continued to drive Genetic Signatures’ revenue”.

Genetic Signatures fell 3.5 cents or 2.3 percent to \$1.46.

UNIVERSAL BIOSENSORS

Universal Biosensors says it has sold \$1 million of its Sentia wine quality test and appointed the Carlsbad, California-based Vinmetrica as a US and Mexico distributor. Universal Biosensors said the Vinmetrica agreement included an initial commitment to purchase unstated volumes of the Sentia sulphur dioxide wine analysis diagnostics, with the first order to be delivered this month.

Universal Biosensors chair Craig Coleman said the company was “delighted to achieve the first \$1 million of sales for Sentia”.

“I am very confident of the future success of our Sentia business and more broadly for our developing range of biosensor opportunities,” Mr Coleman said.

The company said that Vinmetrica was its eleventh signed distributor covering more than 25,000 wineries in the world, and it was on-track to launch malic acid, glucose and fructose tests this year.

Universal Biosensors was up 1.5 cents or two percent to 76.5 cents.

RECCE PHARMACEUTICALS

Recce says it has approval for an 80 volunteer, phase I safety and pharmaco-kinetics trial of intra-venous R327 synthetic anti-infective.

In July, Recce said it had begun dosing the first of 30 patients with infected burns in a phase I/II safety and efficacy trial of a spray-on formulation of R327 at Perth’s Fiona Stanley Hospital (BD: Feb 16, Jul 12, 2021).

Today, the company said it had approval for an ascending-dose, randomized, placebo-controlled, parallel, double-blind, single-dose, one-hour infusion study of R327.

Recce said that eight dose cohorts of 10 people each would be dosed, starting at 50mg of R327 for eight subjects or placebo for two subjects.

The company said that the first patient was expected to be dosed at Adelaide’s CMax this year and the trial was expected to take about 12 months.

Recce chairman Dr John Prendergast said that ethics approval was “a momentous achievement for Recce and the clinicians seeking effective treatments to combat antibiotic-resistant bacteria”.

“This milestone is a significant representation of the dedication and diligence our clinical and research team put into their day-to-day work as we continue to build on our clinical and commercial potential,” Dr Prendergast said.

Recce was up 2.5 cents or 2.7 percent to 95 cents.

CRESO PHARMA

Creso says it will issue Impactive \$C200,000 (\$A216,660) in shares for its marijuana-based joint-pain products.

Creso said Impactive's products delivered "anti-inflammatory relief to professional and amateur athletes suffering from chronic muscle and joint pain and joint and limb recovery". The company said that Impactive co-founders Brett Ayers and Kevin Tansey would enter into employment agreements with Creso and, as part of their remuneration, each would be issued 500,000 options exercisable at 13.75 cents each within three years.

The company said it would seek shareholder approval to issue six million performance shares to Impactive, half converting on generating \$C20,000,000 of gross sales within three years, and the remainder converting at \$C40,000,000 in sales within five years. Creso was unchanged at 11 cents with 33.7 million shares traded.

MEMPHASYS

Memphasys says it has received \$1,359,512 from the Australian Tax Office under the Federal Government Research and Development Tax Incentive program.

Memphasys said the rebate related to expenditure for the year to June 30, 2021.

Memphasys was up 0.1 cents or 1.6 percent to 6.5 cents.

OPTISCAN IMAGING

Optiscan says it has received \$770,283 from the Australian Tax Office under the Federal Government Research and Development Tax Incentive program.

Optiscan said the rebate related expenditure for the year to June 30, 2021.

Optiscan was unchanged at 21.5 cents.

MEMPHASYS

Memphasys says the China National Intellectual Property Administration has granted a patent relating to it Felix sperm separation systems.

Memphasys said the patent, titled 'Sperm Separation by Electrophoresis' protected its intellectual property rights until October 20, 2037.

The company said it was its first patent granted in China, "the largest [in-vitro fertilization] market in the world".

In April, Memphasys said it had been granted two US patents, one with the same title as today's China patent, covering a method of using at least one physically cross-linked biocompatible polymeric membrane in the separation of sperm and a related one titled "biocompatible polymeric membranes" (BD: Apr 29, 2021).

NOXOPHARM

Noxopharm says the Australian and European Patent Offices have allowed patents relating to its Veyonday, also known as idronoxil or NOX66 in chemotherapy.

Noxopharm said the patent, titled 'Chemotherapy improvements', covered a method for treating or preventing cancer by "administering Veyonda with a low dose, up to 90 percent of a therapeutic dose, of chemotherapy drugs belonging to the platinum or taxane families or a combination thereof" and would protect its intellectual property until at least April 21, 2037.

Noxopharm was up 1.5 cents or 2.8 percent to 55 cents.

IMPEDIMED

Impedimed has requested a trading halt pending an announcement in relation to a “proposed capital raising”.

Trading will resume on October 27, 2021 or on an earlier announcement.

Impedimed last traded at 17 cents.

INVEX THERAPEUTICS

Invex says its annual general meeting will vote to issue 2,500,000 performance shares to directors and increase the pay pool by 60 percent to \$400,000 a year.

Invex said it proposed to create performance shares through a special resolution requiring more than 75 percent support.

The company said investors would vote to issue 800,000 performance shares to chair Dr Jason Loveridge, 700,000 shares to chief scientific officer Prof Alexandra Sinclair, 500,000 shares to executive director Dr Tom Duthy and 250,000 shares each to David McAuliffe and Dr Megan Baldwin.

Invex said that 60 percent of the performance shares would vest on dosing the first patient in its 2022 registration study of Presendin for idiopathic intracranial hypertension.

The company said that the remaining 40 percent of performance shares would vest when the study reached 50 percent registration, expected in 2023.

Invex said that the meeting would vote to increase its total remuneration pool for non-executive directors by 60 percent from \$250,000 to \$400,000 a year “to attract and retain appropriately skilled non-executive directors”.

The company said that shareholders would vote on the remuneration report, the election of directors Dr Loveridge and Dr Baldwin, the approval of the 10 percent placement capacity and the adoption of an employee securities incentive plan.

The virtual meeting will be held on November 25, 2021 at 4pm (AWST) and will be at https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3jH62CDnRoe7eg9v9cc_6Q.

Invex fell half a cent or 0.7 percent to 73 cents.

BLUECHIIP

Bluechiip says its annual general meeting will vote to grant managing-director Andrew McLellan 4.5 million performance rights.

Bluechiip said the performance rights would vest in three equal tranches yearly from August 30, 2022, conditional on Bluechiip’s performance relative to the S&P-ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index.

The company said that 50 percent of the performance rights would be exercisable on equalling the Index over the period.

Bluechiip said that the balance of performing rights would vest in proportion from equalling the Index to reaching 120 percent of the Index.

The company said that shareholders would vote on the remuneration report, the re-election of director Iain Kirkwood, the renewal of its performance rights plan, and the approval of a 10 percent placement capacity.

The virtual meeting will be on November 25, 2021 at 10am (AEDT) and can be accessed by going to: <https://investor.automic.com.au/>.

Bluechiip was unchanged at three cents with 1.2 million shares traded.

IMUGENE

Executive chair Paul Hopper says he has increased his substantial holding in Imugene from 291,196,435 (5.40%) to 392,131,648 shares (6.97%).

Mr Hopper said he acquired 100,935,213 consideration shares at 1.55 cents each, relating to the acquisition of Vaxinia by Imugene.

In 2019, Imugene said it would acquire Vaxinia for its City of Hope-invented CF33 oncolytic virus technology and pay \$462,500 in cash and \$1,619,000 in shares, subject to conditions and shareholder approval (BD: July 15, 2019).

The company said that the share issue was approved in an extraordinary general meeting held on November 18, 2019.

Imugene was up three cents or 6.7 percent to 47.5 cents with 18.7 million shares traded.