



# Biotech Daily

Tuesday November 16, 2021

*Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies*

- \* **ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: ALTERITY UP 7%; MESOBLAST DOWN 8%**
- \* **AFP, ASIC RAID EVERBLU CAPITAL**
- \* **NOXOPHARM: 'MRFF WITHDRAWS \$8.8m GRANT'**
- \* **INVION \$12m PLACEMENT, PLAN FOR \$3m FOR PHOTOSOFT**
- \* **WOKE 'OVERSUBSCRIBED' SEED ROUND RAISES \$1.55m**
- \* **REDHILL ENROLS PART A OF RHB-107 FOR COVID-19 TRIAL**
- \* **RESAPP, CAREPATH DEAL FOR IN-HOME COPD MONITORING**
- \* **IMUGENE: MERCK KGaA, PFIZER SUPPLY AVELUMAB FOR TRIALS**
- \* **PYC COMPLETES VP-001 TOXICOLOGY STUDY**
- \* **HERAMED ISSUES SHARES BEYOND APPROVED CAPACITY**
- \* **CYNATA 30% OPPOSE DIRECTOR DR PAUL WOTTON**
- \* **PLATINUM TAKES 17.45% OF AMPLIA**
- \* **ACORN TAKES 6.5% OF AMPLIA**
- \* **AUSCANN LOSES CHAIR MAX JOHNSTON, DIRECTOR BRUCE MCHARRIE**
- \* **PROTEOMICS: DR ROBYN ELLIOTT, NEVILLE GARDINER DIRECTORS**

## MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 0.66 percent on Tuesday November 16, 2021, with the ASX200 down 49.7 points to 7,420.4 points. Fourteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 17 fell, eight traded unchanged and one was untraded.

Alterity was the best, up 0.2 cents or 7.4 percent to 2.9 cents, with 1.9 million shares traded. Actinogen and Resonance climbed five percent or more; Dimerix improved four percent; Imugene and Proteomics were up more than three percent; Neuren and Optiscan rose more than two percent; Medical Developments, Next Science and Polynovo were up more than one percent; with Cochlear, Orthocell, Pro Medicus and Starpharma up by less than one percent.

Yesterday's 11.8 percent best, Mesoblast, led the falls, down 16.5 cents or 8.7 percent to \$1.735, with 6.7 million shares traded. Nova Eye lost 6.2 percent; Immutep was down five percent; Genetic Signatures fell 4.4 percent; Osprey, Prescient and Uscom were down three percent or more; Antisense, Clinuvel, Cyclopharm, Paradigm, Resmed and Telix shed two percent or more; Avita and Universal Biosensors were down more than one percent; with CSL, Cynata, Kazia and Nanosonics down by less than one percent.

[AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES AND INVESTMENTS COMMISSION](#)  
[AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE](#)  
[EVERBLU CAPITAL, CRESO PHARMA](#)

The Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) has told Biotech Daily that it has raided the offices of Everblu Capital.

Everblu is an investor in Creso Pharma and Roots Sustainable as well as other companies, including the delisted Esense.

The chair of Everblu, Adam Blumenthal is the chair of Creso and Roots.

Everblu has invested in Creso, Esense and Roots.

A spokesperson for ASIC told Biotech Daily that the Australian Federal Police exercised warrants on behalf of the Commission in relation to “certain market activities, among other things”.

At the time of publication no one had been charged and there was no further information available.

After the market closed, Creso requested a trading halt “pending its response to a price query” and closed down one cent or 7.4 percent to 12.5 cents with 28.6 million shares traded.

[NOXOPHARM](#)

Noxopharm says the Federal Government’s Medical Research Future Fund \$8.8 million grant announced yesterday has been withdrawn (BD: Nov 15, 2021).

Yesterday at 9.10am Noxopharm announced the grant and at 9.49am requested a trading halt “in respect of an update on the recently announced Australian government grant”.

Yesterday, Noxopharm said the grant was “one of the largest grants of its kind by [the] MRFF for any biotechnology company for a single drug program” and the funding related to its development of Veyonda as a chemotherapy enhancer in cancer patients.

Today, the company said it “retracts its announcement ... regarding the award of an \$8.8 million grant from the Australian Government’s Medical Research Future Fund”.

Noxopharm said that the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources) notified the company in writing of its success in securing the grant on November 9, 2021, “including displaying this fact on the MRFF platform”.

“Given the importance of the matter, the company subsequently took a series of steps to confirm this with the Department and, on receipt of verbal confirmation, proceeded to make its announcement to ASX,” Noxopharm said.

“Without any proper explanation and contrary to the notification from the Department on November 9, 2021, the company was advised by email from the Department on November 15, 2021 that the application for the grant was unsuccessful,” Noxopharm said.

“That notification only came after the company made its ASX announcement [and] Noxopharm immediately sought and obtained a trading halt pending clarification of the matter,” the company said.

“The company takes this matter and the effect on its reputation very seriously and is seeking legal advice about its rights,” Noxopharm said.

“The company intends to raise this matter further with the Department and, if necessary and in the best interest of the company, to take legal action to remedy the damage caused by its reliance on the Department’s conduct,” Noxopharm said.

The company said its planned trial would continue as planned.

Noxopharm said that the trading halt would be lifted following the release of “another material announcement”.

Noxopharm last traded at 48.5 cents.

## INVION

Invion says it has commitments for a \$12 million placement at 2.2 cents a share and hopes to raise a further \$3 million in a share plan to fund its Photosoft for cancer. Invion said that \$5 million of the proceeds would be paid to the RMW Cho Group “as its contribution to development costs of the Photosoft technology”.

The company said that the 2.2 cents share price was a 19.7 percent discount to the 15-day volume weighted average share price of 2.74 cents, and investors would receive one option for every two new shares, exercisable at four cents within 18 months of issue.

The company said the record date for the share plan was November 15, with the offer opening on November 22 and closing on December 3, 2021.

Invion said that RMW and its affiliates would continue funding its research and development activities for cancers in relation to Australia and New Zealand under the existing services agreement.

The company said that it would gain exclusive distribution rights to the Photosoft technology in the includes all Asia Pacific countries, excluding China Macau, Taiwan, Japan and South Korea, but including Hong Kong.

Invion said its to distribution of the Photosoft technology in Australia and New Zealand were covered under the August 31, 2017 agreement.

The company said it had a right of refusal for Japan and South Korea if RMW proposed to grant distribution rights to a third party and RMW had an option to acquire the distribution rights for Hong Kong for the indications under the conditional agreements.

Invion fell 0.2 cents or 7.4 percent to 2.5 cents with 35.3 million shares traded.

## WOKE PHARMACEUTICALS PTY LTD

Woke says it has completed an “oversubscribed” seed capital financing, raising \$1.55 million at five cents a share from sophisticated and science-focused investors.

Woke said the raising was initially \$1.25 million and was increased to \$1.55 million “due to the high level of interest from investors in accelerating Woke towards clinical trials of psilocybin for the treatment of depression”.

The company said the proceeds would be used to complete psilocybin formulation, begin the manufacture of trial material and support the costs of setting up two phase IIb trials.

Woke said it was planning raises in 2022 to support the trials and pipeline expansion.

Woke is a private company.

## REDHILL BIOPHARMA

Redhill says the last of 61 patients has been enrolled in part A of its phase II/III study of daily, oral RHB-107 for non-hospitalized patients with symptomatic Covid-19.

Redhill said the randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of RHB-107 or upamostat in the US and South Africa would evaluate treatment in patients with symptomatic Covid-19 “early in the course of the disease, with a once-daily oral treatment that can be prescribed and used in the non-hospitalized patient population”.

In 2010, Israel's Redhill bought Myoconda (RHB-104), Heliconda (RHB-105) and Picoconda (RHB-106) from Sydney's Giaconda (BD: Aug 17, 2010).

Today, the company said that evaluating time to sustained recovery from illness was the primary endpoint as well as dose selection.

Redhill said that results were expected by April 2022.

On the Nasdaq, Redhill fell 36 US cents or 7.35 percent to \$US4.54 (\$A6.17) with 850,402 shares traded.

## RESAPP HEALTH

Resapp says Berlin's Carepath will integrate the Resappdx in Carepath's Nela platform for in-home monitoring of patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Resapp said that the agreement with Carepath Technologies GmbH would integrate the respiratory diagnostic in the Nela far-field microphone hardware in a pilot program to allow in-home monitoring of patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

The company said that as part of the agreement, it would receive longitudinal data on chronic pulmonary obstructive disease (COPD), potentially allowing it to incorporate additional functionality in monitoring the disease within its technology.

Resapp managing-director Dr Tony Keating said Carepath had developed a hardware product "that offers a unique opportunity to manage COPD patients in their own home".

"Germany has a progressive digital health reimbursement environment to encourage innovative, remote patient management and patient empowerment," Dr Keating said.

"It is the ideal market to foster this innovation," Dr Keating said.

"This partnership will create value for Resapp, Carepath and our collective shareholders and stakeholders," Dr Keating said.

Resapp was up 0.3 cents or 5.7 percent to 5.6 cents.

## IMUGENE

Imugene says Merck KGaA and Pfizer will supply Avelumab for its phase II Neoherizon trial of HER-Vaxx with chemotherapy for gastric cancer.

Imugene said that the Darmstadt, Germany-based Merck KGaA and New York's Pfizer Inc would supply their jointly developed Avelumab (branded as Bavencio) to as one of several chemotherapeutic components in the planned phase II trial.

Imugene said the open-label, multi-centre, randomized clinical trial would compare the efficacy and safety of HER-Vaxx and chemotherapy with chemotherapy alone for treatment of patients with human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER-2) positive gastric and gastroesophageal junction adenocarcinomas.

The company said that the trial's primary endpoint would be "pathologic complete response [and] secondary endpoints include safety and biomarker evaluation".

Imugene was up two cents or 3.5 percent to 59.5 cents with 63.8 million shares traded.

## PYC THERAPEUTICS

PYC says it has completed a toxicology study for its VP-001 RNA therapy for retinitis pigmentosa type 11 in cynomolgous monkeys, or crab eating macaques.

PYC said that the trial provided data for the safety tolerability of doses at day-29 following a range of doses of VP-001 by intravitreal injection.

The company said that at the low and mid doses of 12.15 and 40.5 micrograms respectively, there were no adverse findings, with one eye of six reporting an adverse event at the high dose of 121.5µg and six eyes of six at the highest dose of 405µg.

PYC said the results would support its application for its first human trials for patients with retinitis pigmentosa type 11.

PYC fell half a cent or 3.3 percent to 14.5 cents with 3.7 million shares traded.

## HERAMED

Heramed says it has exceeded its capacity to issue shares by 1,382,914 shares following the conversion of notes.

In October, Heramed said it raised \$2.4 million through convertible notes at \$1 each, with the notes maturing in six months and accruing 10 percent interest a year, which it said would be paid in additional shares at the conversion price (BD: Oct 18, 2021).

Today, the company said the maximum number of shares to be issued for the interest was 1,382,914 shares, which exceeded its capacity under ASX Listing Rule 7.1.

Heramed chair Dr Ron Weinberger told Biotech Daily that the company was working with the ASX to resolve the technical issue.

Heramed fell two cents or 7.1 percent to 26 cents with 1.4 million shares traded.

## CYNATA THERAPEUTICS

Cynata says that 17,507,231 annual general meeting votes (29.49%) opposed the re-election of director Dr Paul Wotton with 41,859,655 votes (70.51%) in favor.

The company said the remuneration report had 10.17 percent opposition, with the directors pay pool increase and the 10 percent placement capacity passed more easily.

According to Cynata's most recent filing, the company had 143,276,594 shares on offer, meaning that the votes against Dr Wotton's re-election amounted to 12.22 percent of the company's shares; sufficient to requisition extraordinary general meetings.

Cynata fell half a cent or 0.9 percent to 54 cents.

## AMPLIA THERAPEUTICS

Platinum Investment Management says it has increased its substantial shareholding in Amplia from 17,169,000 shares (16.15%) to 27,018,000 shares (17.45%).

Platinum said that on May 10 it bought 2,625,000 shares for \$603,750 or 23 cents a share and on November 12, it bought 7,224,000 shares for \$1,300,320, or 18 cents a share.

Last week, Amplia said it raised \$5.4 million a placement at 18 cents a share and expected to raise a further \$7.0 million in a rights issue (BD: Nov 8, 2021).

Amplia was unchanged at 18.5 cents.

## AMPLIA THERAPEUTICS

Acorn Capital says it has become a substantial share-holder in Amplia with 10,071,620 shares (6.49%).

The Melbourne-based Acorn said that on November 9, 2021 it bought 5,790,000 shares for \$1,042,200, or 18.0 cents a share (see above).

## AUSCANN

Auscann says chair Max Johnston and director Bruce McHarrie retired yesterday at the conclusion of the company's annual general meeting.

Auscann said that Krista Bates had been appointed interim chair, while it conducted a search for a new chair.

Auscann chief executive officer Layton Mills thanked Mr Johnston and Mr McHarrie "for the huge contribution they have made in getting us to this important point of development".

Auscann was unchanged at 10.5 cents with one million shares traded.

## [PROTEOMICS INTERNATIONAL LABORATORIES](#)

Proteomics says it has appointed Dr Robyn Elliott and Neville Gardiner as directors, with Mr Gardiner chair-elect, effective from November 16, 2021.

Proteomics said that Dr Elliott had worked for CSL Behring for nine years and was currently an executive at CSL Behring.

The company said that previously Dr Elliott worked for DBL Faulding and IDT Australian and was currently a non-executive director of Polynovo.

Proteomics said that Dr Elliott held a Bachelor of Science and a Doctor of Philosophy from Monash University.

The company said that Mr Gardiner was recently a partner at Deloitte in the mergers and acquisitions team and previously was a co-founder of Torridon Partners and worked for Macquarie Bank, Bank of America Merrill Lynch and Arthur Anderson.

Proteomics said that Mr Gardiner held a Bachelor of Business from Curtin University.

Proteomics was up three cents or 3.3 percent to 95 cents.