



Biotech Daily

Thursday November 18, 2021

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX, BIOTECH UP: AMPLIA UP 8%; LBT DOWN 5%**
- * **ILLUMINA \$5m 'INNOVATION COLLECTIVE' GENOMICS LAB**
- * **IMPEDIMED 'OVERSUBSCRIBED' PLAN RAISES \$7.5m; TOTAL \$42.5m**
- * **RESAPP LICENCES RESAPPDX TO JANSSEN FOR RSV TRIAL**
- * **ADALTA: 2nd US PATENT FOR AD-214 FOR FIBROSIS**
- * **ALCIDION: 'TOO BIG FOR 10% CAPACITY'; LOSES NICK DIGNAM**
- * **OVENTUS: AGM 44% STOP 10% PLACEMENT CAPACITY**
- * **LUMOS TO RELEASE 9.8m VOLUNTARY ESCROW SHARES**
- * **AUSTRALIAN ETHICAL REDUCES TO 13% IN COGSTATE**
- * **PARADIGM APPOINTS BENE'S DR CHRISTIAN REITER FOR R&D**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.13 percent on Thursday November 18, 2021, with the ASX200 up 9.3 points to 7,379.2 points. Twenty-one of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 14 fell and five traded unchanged.

Amplia was the best, up 1.5 cents or 7.9 percent to 20.5 cents, with 152,544 shares traded. Nova Eye and Telix climbed more than six percent; Imugene, Optiscan and Pharmaxis improved more than four percent; Actinogen and Alterity were up more than three percent; Cynata, Impedimed, Opthea, Patrys, Proteomics and Resonance rose two percent or more; Cochlear, CSL, Genetic Signatures and Nanosonics were up more than one percent; with Avita, Clinuvel, Cyclopharm, Kazia and Starpharma up by less than one percent.

LBT led the falls, down 0.5 cents or 5.05 percent to 9.4 cents, with 47,440 shares traded. Antisense, Mesoblast and Next Science fell more than four percent; Immutep and Prescient lost more than three percent; Paradigm shed 2.2 percent; Medical Developments, Orthocell, Polynovo and Universal Biosensors were down one percent or more; with Osprey, Pro Medicus, Resmed and Volpara down by less than one percent.

ILLUMINA INC

Illumina says it has opened a \$5 million “fully-equipped” genomics laboratory at the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre in Melbourne’s Parkville precinct.

The San Diego, California-based Illumina said the laboratory, to be known as ‘the Illumina Innovation Collective’ would “support researchers and entrepreneurs to make scientific advances in areas such as infectious disease, oncology, genetic disease and agriculture”. A representative of the company told Biotech Daily that the laboratory would build “genomics knowledge and shows how it can be used in research which ultimately leads to the purchase and/or use of more Illumina equipment”.

On its website, the Nasdaq-listed Illumina said it was involved in DNA sequencing and array-based technologies for the research, clinical, and applied markets and supplied reagents, kits and sequencing instruments.

The company said it would provide facilities for selected startups with non-dilutive sequencing grants, start-up coaching and access to its network “to help entrepreneurs create, launch and grow genomics and multi-omics startups”.

“The aim is to accelerate innovation in the genomics space in Australia, grow the local ecosystem and encourage new breakthrough applications for our technology,” Illumina said.

Illumina said that start-ups could apply to receive \$US10,000 to access its sequencing systems, reagents and technical expertise to help generate proof-of-concept data.

Illumina head of Asia Pacific and Japan Gretchen Weightman said that genomic discoveries “offer new treatments and fresh hope to the patients of tomorrow as well novel solutions for our farming communities”.

“Illumina pioneered technology that could see into the genome,” Ms Weightman said.

“Since then, we have endeavored to make the genome more accessible to ensure that the extraordinary potential of these scientific breakthroughs has a truly global reach,” Ms Weightman said.

The company said its goal was “to support at least a half a dozen Australian research projects concurrently”.

“It is the first genomics lab in Australia where Illumina’s training specialists, lab scientists, clinical liaison officers and medical affairs teams are working shoulder to shoulder with genomics leaders, healthcare professionals and patient communities to fully realize the potential of genomics,” Illumina said.

The company said that the Illumina Innovation Collective would host Illumina for Startups Australia, focused on developing an ecosystem for the genomics industry by partnering with leading venture capital investors and entrepreneurs to develop, launch, and improve genomics start-ups in Australia.

On the Nasdaq, Illumina fell 88 US cents or 0.23 percent to \$US377.63 (\$A519.12) with 531,132 shares traded.

IMPEDIMED

Impedimed says its share plan to raise \$5 million had applications for \$32 million and it increased the capacity to \$7.5 million, taking the total raised to \$42.5 million.

Last month, Impedimed said it completed a \$35 million placement at 15.25 cents a share and hoped to raise \$5 million through a share plan (BD: Oct 27, 2021).

Today, the company said it increased its share plan to \$7.5 million “to accommodate a more equitable resolution” and remaining applications would receive a minimum amount of \$1,000 in shares, with allocations based on holdings at the record date.

Impedimed was up half a cent or 2.9 percent to 18 cents with 1.6 million shares traded.

[RESAPP](#)

Resapp says it has licenced its Resappdx to the Beerse, Belgium-based Janssen Pharmaceutica NV for use in a respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) clinical trial.

Resapp said Janssen Pharmaceutica NV was one of the Janssen Pharmaceutical companies of Johnson & Johnson, and the three-year agreement was facilitated by Johnson & Johnson Innovation.

The company said the trial would assess the respiratory symptoms of a cohort of patients with a range of respiratory diseases.

Resapp said the trial in the US, Europe, South America and the Asia-Pacific was expected to begin "later this calendar year".

Resapp said Janssen would pay development and maintenance costs in addition to a fee per Resappdx test to Resapp.

Resapp chief executive officer Dr Tony Keating told Biotech Daily that the fee to be paid was confidential.

Resapp was up 0.1 cents or 1.9 percent to 5.4 cents with 7.5 million shares traded.

[ADALTA](#)

Adalta says the US Patent and Trademark Office has granted a second patent relating to AD-214 for fibrosis.

The company said the patent, titled 'Polypeptides which bind C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 (CXCR4) and methods of treating or reducing the risk of fibrosis and cancer' would protect its intellectual property until January 8, 2036.

Last year, Adalta said it was granted its first US patent for AD-214 (BD: Jan 30, 2021).

Adalta said it had patents for AD-214 in Australia and Japan with claims being pursued in the EU and China.

Adalta was up 0.6 cents or 7.1 percent to nine cents.

[ALCIDION](#)

Alcidion says it withdrew the annual general meeting resolution to approve the 10 percent placement capacity because it is too big.

Alcidion said the resolution was withdrawn "due to the company's current market [capitalization] being over \$300 million and as such making the company an ineligible entity under ASX Listing Rule 7.1A".

Listing Rule 7.1A allows companies that have a market capitalization of \$300 million or less to seek shareholder approval for an additional 10 percent placement capacity above the annual 15 percent capacity available to all ASX-listed companies.

Alcidion said that all resolutions passed easily but there was 9.39 percent opposition to the 25 percent increase in maximum aggregate of director's remuneration from \$400,000 to \$500,000.

According to the company's most recent filing, it had 1,048,069,052 shares on issue, meaning that the 12,172,509 votes against the pay pool increase amounted to 1.16 percent of the company, not sufficient to requisition extraordinary general meetings.

Separately, Alcidion said that year non-executive director Nicholas Dignam resigned effective from November 17, 2021, after six years with the company.

Alcidion was up half a cent or 1.4 percent to 36 cents with one million shares traded.

[OVENTUS MEDICAL](#)

Oventus says 35,935,453 annual general meeting votes (43.92%) defeated the special resolution, requiring 75 percent to pass, to refresh its 10 percent placement capacity. Oventus said that the resolutions to adopt the remuneration report, re-elect Sue MacLeman as non-executive director, renewal the proportional takeover approval provisions and the renewal of executive share option plan were passed easily. According to its most recent filing, Oventus had 241,726,535 shares on issue, meaning the votes against the placement capacity amounted to 14.87 percent of the company, sufficient to requisition extraordinary general meetings. Oventus fell 0.2 cents or two percent to 9.6 cents.

[LUMOS DIAGNOSTICS](#)

Lumos says 9,836,309 shares will be released from voluntary escrow on November 26, 2021.

According to the company's prospectus said it expected to release 9,836,197 shares on November 26, 2021.

Lumos was contacted to explain the discrepancy but a reply had not been received at the time of publication.

The prospectus said that a further 9,836,197 shares would be released from voluntary escrow when the results for the year to June 30, 2021 were released; with 7,823,594 shares to be released from voluntary escrow when it released its half year report to December 31, 2021 and June 30, 2022; and 40,124,915 shares would be released from voluntary escrow when results were released for the year to June 30, 2023.

According to its most recent filing, Lumos had 150,282,990 shares on issue.

Lumos was up two cents or 2.5 percent to 81 cents.

[COGSTATE](#)

Melbourne's Australian Ethical says it has reduced its shareholding in Cogstate from 24,208,118 shares (14.05%) to 21,932,723 (12.71%).

Australian Ethical said it sold shares between September 22 and November 16, 2021, with the single largest sale 573,151 shares for \$1,363,507 or \$2.38 a share.

Cogstate fell one cent or 0.4 percent to \$2.39.

[PARADIGM BIOPHARMA](#)

Paradigm says it has appointed Bene Pharmachem's Dr Christian Reiter as a senior principal research scientist effective from November 15, 2021.

Paradigm said Dr Reiter was Bene Pharmachem's director of research and development for more than 13 years and worked on pentosan polysulfate sodium (PPS).

Last year, Paradigm said its licence and supply agreement with the Gerestsried, Germany-based Bene Pharmachem for pentosan poly-sulphate sodium had been extended for 25 years (BD: Sep 29, 2020).

The company said Dr Reiter held a Doctor of Medicine from Munich's Ludwig-Maximilians-University.

Paradigm fell five cents or 2.2 percent to \$2.20.