



Biotech Daily

Thursday June 2, 2022

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: AMPLIA UP 18%; NEXT SCIENCE DOWN 7.5%**
- * **PRO MEDICUS, ALLINA \$28m VISAGE 7 DEAL**
- * **GSK \$100k AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARDS OPEN**
- * **VICTORIA \$100k FOR PRIMARY IMMUNE DEFICIENCY DIAGNOSTICS**
- * **AMPLIA: AMP945 'SIMILAR EFFICACY' TO NINTEDANIB FOR IPF, IN MICE**
- * **ALTERITY STARTS NZ ATH434 FOR MSA PHASE II TRIAL**
- * **ANTERIS: MERCER \$1.1m CONVERTIBLE NOTES**
- * **PROTEOMICS SUBMITS PROMARKERD FOR TGA REGISTRATION**
- * **IMPEDIMED SOZO 4.1 ADDS ANALYTICS, BETTER ELECTRONIC RECORDS**
- * **ADHERIUM TO SUPPLY HAILIE MONITOR FOR AVILLION TRIAL**
- * **CANN HARVESTS 1st MILDURA COMMERCIAL MARIJUANA CROP**
- * **RESAPP TAKES 'PFIZER EXPERT REPORT' HALT TO SUSPENSION**
- * **LUMOS REQUESTS 'RIGHTS OFFER' TRADING HALT**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 0.8 percent on Thursday June 2, 2022, with the ASX200 down 58.1 points to 7,175.9 points. Eight of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 22 fell, nine traded unchanged and one were untraded.

Amplia was the best, up two cents or 18.2 percent to 13 cents, with 278,269 shares traded. Dimerix and Micro-X climbed more than six percent; Prescient was up 5.7 percent; Actinogen improved 4.55 percent; Kazia and Opthea were up more than one percent; with Neuren up 0.8 percent.

Next Science led the falls, down six cents or 7.5 percent to 74 cents, with 149,027 shares traded. Imugene, Mesoblast, Nanosonics, Polynovo, Telix and Volpara fell more than five percent; Antisense, Clinuvel, Genetic Signatures and Starpharma were down three percent or more; Impedimed, Oncosil and Orthocell shed two percent or more; Atomo, Cochlear, CSL, Emvision, Pharmaxis, Resmed and Universal Biosensors were down more than one percent; with Avita, Medical Developments, Paradigm and Pro Medicus down by less than one percent.

PRO MEDICUS

Pro Medicus says it has a \$28 million, seven-year contract with the Minneapolis, Minnesota-based Allina Health to replace a legacy system with its Visage 7.

Pro Medicus said that Allina was a not-for-profit health care system and the contract covered its 11 hospitals and more than 90 clinics in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

The company said that the contract included the provision of the Visage 7 workflow and image viewing modules.

Pro Medicus said that Allina joined several other Visage clients in opting for a fully internet cloud-based system, a trend that had taken "a major foothold in the North American healthcare [information technology] market".

The company said that planning for the roll-out would begin immediately, with initial software use targeted for the second half of 2022.

Pro Medicus chief executive officer Dr Sam Hupert said Allina Health was "our fifth major contract in the North American integrated delivery network (IDN) space in 18 months, underpinning the strong momentum we continue to build in this important segment of the market".

"IDN's are growing because of the trend towards value-based medicine coupled with industry consolidation," Dr Hupert said.

"Our Visage 7 platform is ideally suited to meet their needs with its unparalleled speed, scalability, and proven cloud capability," Dr Hupert said.

"Our pipeline remains strong and spans a growing number of market segments, including academic institutions, the IDN space, independent radiology groups, and the for-profit sector," Dr Hupert said. "Our proven cloud-engineered technology provides us with a very significant strategic advantage with the last six of our major contracts being cloud-based - a trend we think will continue."

Pro Medicus fell 15 cents or 0.4 percent to \$41.14 with 222,642 shares traded.

VICTORIA GOVERNMENT, IMMUNOSIS PTY LTD

The Victoria Government says it will provide \$100,000 to Immunosis Pty Ltd to support clinical studies of its gene-based primary immune deficiency diagnostic.

A media release from Victoria Minister for Innovation Jaala Pulford said the grant was provided through the Victorian Medical Research Acceleration Fund, and would support clinical trials to validate the test.

The State Government said the test would more accurately identify some of the 400 primary immune deficiency disorders experienced by more than 12,000 Victorians, before they cause complications such as chronic lung disease, lymphoma, and autoimmune illnesses.

The media release said that the Royal Melbourne Hospital research team, led by Prof Joe Douglass, had been able to predict primary immune deficiency disorders with 93 percent accuracy with a genomic testing algorithm.

The Government said studies had shown that faster diagnosis could lead to a reduction in annual days in hospital from 19.8 days to 3.1 days, and could cut the days that affected people spent on antibiotics by half.

The media release said the research was jointly supported by Immunosis, the Royal Melbourne Hospital, the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute and the Murdoch Children's Research Centre.

The Victoria Government said the first patients had been recruited into the trials, with more expected by September.

Immunosis is a Melbourne-based private company.

GLAXOSMITHKLINE

Glaxosmithkline says nominations have opened for this year's \$100,000 award for Australian research excellence.

Glaxosmithkline said the awards recognized Australian medical researchers improving human health and were accompanied by the grant to support their work.

The company said that since 1980, the annual award has gone to individuals or two-person teams "with very significant existing track records who are well placed to further their contributions in the near future".

Glaxosmithkline said that with the growing focus on home-grown, Australia-based research, it had taken the decision to increase the award from \$80,000 to \$100,000.

The company said the award would be presented at the Research Australia awards night on October 13, 2022 in Melbourne.

Further inquiries to: are.arenominations@gsk.com, with nominations to be submitted by July 15, 2022 at: <https://survey.gsk.com/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=14KMmo55K#>.

AMPLIA THERAPEUTICS

Amplia says that focal adhesion kinase (FAK) inhibitor AMP945 has "similar efficacy to the current standard-of-care" for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF), in mice.

Amplia said that in a mouse challenge model which induced lung fibrosis by exposing mice to bleomycin, AMP945 had comparable activity to Ofev (nintedanib), the current market-leading treatment for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.

The company said that a study arm combining both AMP945 and Ofev showed no detectable increase in efficacy, suggesting that maximum effect had been reached for both AMP945 and Ofev.

Amplia managing-director Dr John Lambert said the company had established that AMP945 was "a highly selective FAK inhibitor and our clinical studies to date have shown that AMP945 has an excellent safety and tolerability profile at doses that result in measurable inhibition of its intended target".

"These new results reconfirm the efficacy of AMP945 in the industry-standard pre-clinical IPF model and show that, in a head-to-head comparison, the activity of AMP945 is comparable to the current market leader, Ofev," Dr Lambert said.

"This information should provide significant encouragement to clinical investigators and patients in our planned clinical trials of AMP945 in this devastating disease ... [and] strengthen our ongoing discussions with potential ... partners," Dr Lambert said.

Amplia was up two cents or 18.2 percent to 13 cents.

ALTERITY THERAPEUTICS

Alterity says it has begun enrolling patients in its 60-patient, phase II trial of ATH434 for multiple system atrophy (MSA) in New Zealand.

In December, Alterity said New Zealand had authorized a 60-patient, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase II trial of ATH434 for early-stage multiple system atrophy (BD: Dec 14, 2021).

Today, Alterity chief executive officer Dr David Stamler said the opening of enrolment was "an important first step for this clinical program and I am grateful to our team and our investigators who supported the launch of the trial".

"Over the course of this year, we will expand the trial into other regions globally," Dr Stamler said.

Alterity was unchanged at 1.7 cents with 4.4 million shares traded.

ANTERIS TECHNOLOGIES

Anteris says Mercer Street has converted a \$1,080,000 second tranche of notes for shares at \$15.09, a 10 percent discount to the 5-day volume-weighted average price. Anteris said the shares issued to New York's Mercer Street Global Opportunity Fund compared to the closing price of \$3.88 on the date of announcing the \$20 million funding package (BD: Jan 17, 2021)

Anteris was up 32 cents or 1.55 percent to \$20.92.

PROTEOMICS INTERNATIONAL LABORATORIES

Proteomics says it has filed a submission with the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration to include Promarkerd on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods. Proteomics said the submission was following an "abridged registration path" as a result of its specialized ISO 13485 quality control and assurance certification.

The company said it expected the TGA submission review process would take six to nine months.

Proteomics managing-director Dr Richard Lipscombe said that "home country approval will also enable product registration to proceed in multiple other countries, for example South-East Asia and the Middle East, where we see substantial market opportunities".

Proteomics was unchanged at 93 cents.

IMPEDIMED

Impedimed says it has updated the software on its Sozo 4.1 digital health platform to add lymphoedema analytics and improve integration with other electronic records.

Impedimed said the added lymphoedema analytics would generate "reporting and insights directly from each customer's unique Sozo dataset" and optimize workflows and patient outcomes by identifying patients in need of testing.

The company said the software improved integration with third-party electronic health records, improving efficiency and ensuring thorough testing records to aid reimbursement. Impedimed fell 0.2 cents or 2.3 percent to 8.4 cents.

ADHERIUM

Adherium says that it will provide its Hailie asthma puffer monitor to Astrazeneca mild asthma trial partner, the London-based Avillion LLP.

In September, Adherium said it had a \$US650,000 Astrazeneca contract to supply a version of its Hailie sensor and software to track the use of an investigational inhaler medication via participants' phones in a two-year US clinical study (BD: Sep 24, 2021).

Today, the company confirmed the value and terms of the contract had not changed, but that it would provide its Hailie sensors and software to Avillion, with manufacturing underway, and it expected supplying Avillion until October this year.

Adherium said the study was an expansion of the Astrazeneca agreement for PT027, a potential first-in-class inhaled, fixed-dose rescue medication containing albuterol, a short-acting asthma relief medication, and budesonide, an inhaled corticosteroid.

Adherium chief executive officer Rick Legleiter said that the use of Hailie in a "decentralized clinical study where patients are monitored remotely in real time has been successfully employed in many other clinical studies and validates our focus on providing the Hailie solution for real-world remote patient monitoring by healthcare providers."

Adherium fell 0.1 cents or 10 percent to 0.9 cents.

CANN GROUP

Cann Group says it is harvesting its first commercial crop of medical marijuana at its Mildura farm and processing facility.

In March, Cann Group said its Mildura marijuana production facility had reached “practical completion” with the Federal Office of Drug Control allowing commercial growing to begin (BD: Mar 15, 2022).

The company said it was actively cultivating commercial crops across all three of its licenced sites.

Cann Group chief executive officer Peter Crock said “the first commercial harvest at our Mildura site is a significant achievement”.

“This harvest is just the first of many to come, but it marks the next phase in Cann’s activities as we begin to reap the benefits of our fixed infrastructure investments,” Mr Crock said.

Cann fell one cent or 3.1 percent to 31 cents.

RESAPP HEALTH

Resapp says it has requested a voluntary suspension to follow the trading halt pending “an announcement ... as to the status of the proposed acquisition by Pfizer Australia”.

On Tuesday, Resapp requested a trading halt pending an update on the proposed acquisition by Pfizer Australia “while the company considers the draft independent expert report” (BD: May 31, 2022).

In April, Resapp said Pfizer Australia would offer 11.5 cents a share, a 27.8 percent premium, to buy the company, valuing it at \$100 million (BD: Apr 11, 2022).

Resapp last traded at 11 cents.

LUMOS DIAGNOSTICS

Lumos has requested a trading halt pending an announcement “in relation to a capital raise in the form of a pro-rata, accelerated, non-renounceable, entitlement offer”.

Trading will resume on June 8, 2022, or on an earlier announcement.

Lumos last traded at 24.5 cents.