



Biotech Daily

Thursday June 23, 2022

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX UP, BIOTECH DOWN: PROTEOMICS UP 8%; ORTHOCELL DOWN 10.5%**
- * **TELEX: ISOLOGIC TO DISTRIBUTE ILLUCIX IN CANADA**
- * **SERVATUS, GENETIC ANALYSIS MICROBIOME TESTS, THERAPIES**
- * **MICROBA RELEASES GUT TEST BETA VERSION**
- * **POLYNOVO SELLS PORT MELBOURNE HQ FOR \$6.5m**
- * **MEDLAB FOOD ADDITIVES DEAL WITH YESHEALTH**
- * **ALTERITY: ITALY APPROVES ATH434 MSA TRIAL**
- * **NUHEARA REQUESTS 'CAPITAL RAISING' TRADING HALT**
- * **BLACKROCK REDUCES TO 8% OF IMRICOR**
- * **REGAL FUNDS BELOW 5% OF IMRICOR**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.31 percent on Thursday June 23, 2022, with the ASX200 up 19.9 points to 6,528.4 points. Twelve of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 21 fell, six traded unchanged and one was untraded. All three Big Caps were up.

Proteomics was the best, up six cents or 8.4 percent to 77.5 cents, with 65,645 shares traded; followed by Genetic Signatures up eight percent to \$1.08, with 84,715 shares traded. Starpharma climbed 7.8 percent; Avita was up 5.4 percent; Alcidion, Emvision and Pro Medicus improved more than four percent; Compumedics was up 3.1 percent; Cochlear, CSL and Resmed rose more than two percent; Impedimed, Neuren and Telix were up more than one percent; with Clinuvel up by 0.9 percent.

Yesterday's 8.1 percent best, Orthocell, led the falls, down 3.5 cents or 10.45 percent to 30 cents, with 253,819 shares traded; followed by Cyclopharm down 10.3 percent to 96 cents, with 52,334 shares traded. Oncosil lost 9.8 percent; Dimerix, Medical Developments and Prescient fell more than seven percent; Actinogen, Antisense, Kazia and Volpara shed more than six percent; Paradigm, Pharmaxis and Uscom were down five percent or more; Immutep, Micro-X, Patrys and Polynovo fell more than four percent; Imugene was down 3.45 percent; Nanosonics and Next Science shed more than two percent; with Opthea down by one percent.

TELIX PHARMACEUTICALS

Telix says it has appointed the Dorval, Québec-based Isologic Innovative Pharmaceuticals as its Illuccix prostate cancer imaging product distributor for Canada.

Telix did not disclose the commercial terms of the agreement but said Isologic would be the commercial distributor of the Illuccix kit for the preparation of 68-gallium, prostate specific membrane antigen-11 injection (68Ga-PSMA-11), for four years, following regulatory approval from Health Canada, subject to annual minimum sales commitments. Telix managing-director Dr Christian Behrenbruch said that Canada was “an important market for Telix and we already have an active user base of physicians who are prescribing Illuccix under compassionate use programs”.

Dr Behrenbruch said the agreement would help Canadian patients access PSMA-positron emission tomography imaging using Illuccix, following approval.

Telix was up six cents or 1.5 percent to \$4.15 with 793,820 shares traded.

SERVATUS BIOPHARMACEUTICALS

Servatus says it will work with the Oslo-based Genetic Analysis to develop microbiome diagnostic markers and treatments.

The Coolum Beach, Queensland-based Servatus said it would establish a ‘Genetic Analysis-map Flagship Lab’ at its Australian Biotherapeutics manufacturing facility, which would use the Genetic Analysis platform to supply in-house and external microbiome analysis in the research field.

The Genetic Analysis website said that it had two service products: the GA-map dysbiosis test and the GA-map Covid-19 faecal test as well as laboratory reagent kits for the two tests, but did not explain the meaning of “map”.

Servatus said the Genetic Analysis-map dysbiosis test was the first Conformité Européenne-marked in-vitro diagnostic test on the market to provide microbiota profiles and dysbiosis status for irritable bowel syndrome and inflammatory bowel disease.

The company said it would be able to use Genetic Analysis bio-informatical resources and the ‘Humgut’ database, a comprehensive human gut genome collection, co-developed by Genetic Analysis and Oslo’s Norwegian University of Life Sciences, as well as the Genetic Analysis biobank data collection.

Servatus chief executive officer Dr Wayne Finlayson said his company was “thrilled to collaborate with Genetic Analysis, a pioneer for science-based diagnostics, research and product development in the human microbiome field”.

“This strategic collaboration agreement will facilitate extensive knowledge sharing and enable us to establish the framework for shaping the global microbiome market as industry leaders,” Dr Finlayson said.

“The partnership will leverage significant datasets provided by [Genetic Analysis] and utilize our Australian Biotherapeutics manufacturing facility to grow our business in Australia, Asia and the US,” Dr Finlayson said.

Genetic Analysis chief executive officer Ronny Hermansen said the collaboration would “let the two companies draw on their combined world class expertise in both drug development, biosimilar manufacturing and microbiome analysis to accelerate the growth for both companies in delivering new innovative microbiome-based therapies”.

“A key objective ... is to collaborate with [pharmaceutical companies] and to prepare for geographical expansion towards major markets and this collaboration agreement with Servatus is well in line with [our] objectives ... so this represents a major milestone in the company’s development,” Mr Hermansen said.

Servatus is a public unlisted company.

MICROBA LIFE SCIENCES

Microba says it has released its “next generation” gut microbiome assessing product to healthcare professionals in a closed beta access program.

Microba said that the product would “enable health professionals to comprehensively assess gut microbiome biomarkers and identify opportunities to intervene through diet, lifestyle and supplementation”.

The company said the product provided “55 new clinical interventions and a new clinical report ... [which would] significantly advance the clinical utility of microbiome testing and support patient management”.

Microba said that the beta access program enabled “select practitioners to get early access ahead of a wider market release”.

Microba chief scientific officer Prof Lutz Krause said that the new product “delivers the latest clinical information available from gut microbiome testing”.

“This encompasses information drawn from over 1,000 peer-reviewed publications and supporting data from Microba’s large proprietary Databank,” Prof Krause said.

Microba fell 3.5 cents or 13.7 percent to 22 cents.

POLYNOVO

Polynovo says it has finalized the sale of its Port Melbourne headquarters for \$6.5 million.

In March, Polynovo said it sold its headquarters, but would lease the offices for 10 years, using \$3 million to reduce debt and the balance for working capital (BD: Mar 18, 2022).

Polynovo fell 5.5 cents or 4.5 percent to \$1.16 with two million shares traded.

MEDLAB CLINICAL

Medlab says it has a five-year agreement with the Shah Alam, Malaysia-based Yeshealth to distribute 12 of its food additive products in Malaysia, Vietnam and Singapore.

Medlab did not disclose the commercial terms of the agreement, but said it would supply food additives to Yeshealth on a cost-plus basis, as well as receive royalties on net sales.

The company said that the agreement included its Nanocelle patented delivery method, and Yeshealth would be the exclusive distributor of its products in Malaysia and Vietnam, as well as a non-exclusive distributor in Singapore.

Medlab said that Yeshealth would also be responsible for the registration of the products in their defined territories, with the goal of registering and releasing 10 food additive products in the first year and another two in the second.

The company said that Yeshealth would be responsible for all sales, marketing and logistics of the products and that it had a distribution goal of 2,500 outlets, including pharmacies and integrative clinics.

Medlab was up half a cent or 9.6 percent to 5.7 cents.

ALTERITY THERAPEUTICS

Alterity says Italian Medicines Agency has approval its up-to 60-patient, phase II trial of ATH434 for multiple system atrophy (MSA).

Earlier this month, Alterity said it had begun its phase II trial of ATH434 in New Zealand, and last year said it was planning the randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of ATH434 in patients with early-stage multiple system atrophy in Australia, New Zealand, Europe and the US (BD: Jun 2, 2022; Oct 19, 2021).

Alterity was unchanged at 1.5 cents with 3.2 million shares traded.

[NUHEARA](#)

Nuheara has requested a trading halt pending an announcement “regarding a capital raising”.

Trading will resume on June 27, 2022 or on an earlier announcement.

Nuheara last traded at 12 cents.

[IMRICOR MEDICAL SYSTEMS](#)

The New York-based Blackrock group says it has reduced its substantial holding in Imricor from 13,392,679 shares (9.34%) to 11,771,428 shares (8.21%).

Blackrock said that on June 20 and 21, 2022 it sold 1,621,251 shares for \$194,550 or 12 cents a share.

Imricor fell half a cent or four percent to 12 cents with 1.4 million shares traded

[IMRICOR MEDICAL SYSTEMS](#)

Sydney’s Regal Funds says it has ceased its substantial holding in Imricor due to dilution after the release of 298,297 shares on June 17, 2022.

Regal’s previous substantial shareholder notice said it held 7,165,761 shares or 5.00 percent of Imricor.