



Biotech Daily

Tuesday September 6, 2022

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX DOWN, BIOTECH UP: UNIVERSAL BIOSENSORS UP 18%
- ANTISENSE DOWN 5%**
- * **USCOM: CHINA RECOMMENDS USCOM 1A FOR HEART FAILURE**
- * **IMMUTEP: POLAND PHASE II IMP321 TRIAL FOR SOFT TISSUE SARCOMA**
- * **IQ ADMINISTRATORS REQUEST FURTHER DOCA EXTENSION**
- * **ORTHOCELL REQUESTS 'REPLIR DISTRIBUTION' TRADING HALT**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 0.38 percent on Tuesday September 6, with the ASX200 down 25.7 points to 6,826.5 points.

Sixteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 13 fell, six traded unchanged and five were untraded.

Universal Biosensors was the best, on a Powerpoint presentation titled 'Market Update', up 4.5 cents or 18.4 percent to 29 cents, with 560,858 shares traded.

Kazia climbed 17.5 percent; Uscom was up 14.3 percent; Dimerix improved 7.1 percent; Prescient was up 5.9 percent; Patrys climbed 4.2 percent; Immutep was up 3.6 percent; Actinogen and Paradigm rose more than two percent; Medical Developments, Neuren, Pharmaxis and Resmed were up more than one percent; with Avita, Cochlear, Pro Medicus, Proteomics and Telix up by less than one percent.

Yesterday's 7.1 best, Antisense, led the falls, down 0.5 cents or 4.8 percent to 10 cents, with 858,580 shares traded; followed by Volpara down 2.5 cents or 4.1 percent to 58 cents, with 91,601 shares traded.

Alcidion and Emvision lost more than three percent; Genetic Signatures, Imugene, Oncosil and Starpharma shed two percent or more; Nanosonics, Polynovo and Resonance were down one percent or more; with Clinuvel, CSL and Next Science down by less than one percent.

USCOM

Uscom says China's national emergency medicine guidelines have recommended its Uscom 1A ultrasonic haemodynamic monitor for managing acute heart failure.

Uscom said its Uscom 1A ultra-sonic cardiac output monitor was a non-invasive and accurate heart monitor used for the diagnosis and management of cardiac disease in adults and children.

The company said heart-failure was reported in 12.1 million patients in China and had a serious public health burden.

Uscom executive chair Prof Rob Phillips said "this recognition by the collaborative colleges of emergency medicine in China is important for Uscom as we further consolidate our role in clinical practice across China".

"Uscom 1A was also recommended by the People's Republic of China Ministry of Health and Medical Commission for the treatment of severe Covid," Prof Phillips said.

"These clinical practice guidelines reflect years of data and clinician confidence and confirm the scientific leadership that Uscom has established with its products world-wide," Prof Phillips said.

Uscom was up one cent or 14.3 percent to eight cents.

IMMUTEP

Immutep says Poland's National Research Institute of Oncology will conduct an investigator-led up-to 40-patient phase II trial of IMP321 for soft tissue sarcoma.

Immutep said it had signed a material transfer agreement with the Warsaw-based Maria Skłodowska-Curie National Research Institute of Oncology to enable an investigator-initiated open-label, up-to 40-patient phase II trial of IMP321, or eftilagimod alpha or ehti, in combination with Keytruda (pembrolizumab) and radiotherapy, prior to surgery, in patients with select soft tissue sarcoma.

The company said that the Institute would fund the study with a EUR1.5 million (\$A2.2 million) grant from the Polish Medical Research Agency program, and that it would provide IMP321 at no cost to the Institute, as well as technical support.

Immutep said dosing of the first patient was expected by July 2023, with interim data expected by the end of 2024, subject to approvals from relevant Polish authorities.

The company said the trial would be led by Dr Katarzyna Kozak and Dr Paweł Sobczuk.

Immutep chief scientific and medical officer Dr Frederic Triebel said that "Ehti stimulates the immune system through a differentiated mechanism that targets LAG-3-driven activation of antigen-presenting cells".

"By working upstream of T cells, ehti has potential to generate a broad and robust anti-tumor immune response even in the immune-suppressed tumor micro-environment of soft tissue sarcomas," Dr Triebel said.

"Therefore, we are very pleased to be collaborating with our colleagues at the Maria Skłodowska-Curie National Research Institute of Oncology," Dr Triebel said.

Immutep chief executive officer Marc Voigt said "we were delighted to be approached by Dr Paweł Sobczuk and Dr Katarzyna Kozak to form this collaboration with the Maria Skłodowska-Curie National Research Institute of Oncology to explore the potential of ehti in combination with pembrolizumab and radiotherapy in soft tissue sarcoma".

"Recurrence and lack of deep and durable responses are challenges with the limited standards of care available for this rare and difficult-to-treat disease [and] ehti's novel mechanism of action offers potential to enhance anti-tumor responses for these patients," Mr Voigt said.

Immutep was up one cent or 3.6 percent to 28.5 cents.

[IQ GROUP \(DVT AS ADMINISTRATORS\)](#)

De Vries Tayeh (DVT) as administrators for IQ Group have requested an extension to the deed proponent to “complete its due diligence and to raise sufficient funds”.

In March, IQ said it had entered voluntary administration with the Sydney-based DVT appointed as administrators “to restructure” (BD: Mar 11, 2022).

In April, DVT said it would seek court orders to extend by three months the time required to sort out the financial affairs of the IQ Group “due to the complexities of the financial affairs of the companies, managing the expressions of interest, and the resulting volume of work required, the administrators are of the view that it would be in the best interests of creditors to extend the convening period of all four companies” (BD: Apr 4, 2022).

In August, DVT as administrators of IQ3, said creditors accepted the proposed deed of company arrangement (Doca) at a meeting on July 12, 2022 (BD: Aug 1, 2022).

Later that month, the ASX first suspended IQ3 for failing to pay its accounts and later removed it from the official list (BD: Aug 22, 29, 2022)

Today, DVT said lawyers representing the deed of company arrangement proponent advising of delays in completing due diligence and raising sufficient funds for the contribution sum under the deed and, as a result, it requested an extension to complete due diligence and fund raising by October 1, 2022.

IQ Group last traded at 12 cents.

[ORTHOCELL](#)

Orthocell says it has requested a trading halt pending “an announcement in relation to a distribution agreement for its nerve repair device, Remplir”.

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

Orthocell last traded at 40 cents.