



# Biotech Daily

Tuesday February 7, 2023

*Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies*

- \* **ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: NEXT SCIENCE UP 18%; ACTINOGEN DOWN 6%**
- \* **MEMPHASYS FELIX 'BEATS DGC FOR SPERM SEPARATION'**
- \* **MICROBA APPOINTS LUMINARY US DISTRIBUTOR; \$660k ORDER**
- \* **MEDLAB: ODC APPROVES MARIJUANA NANADOL UK EXPORT**
- \* **ANTERIS REQUESTS 'CAPITAL RAISING' TRADING HALT**
- \* **CARDIEX REQUESTS 'CAPITAL RAISING' TRADING HALT**
- \* **BLACK ROCK REDUCES TO 5.7% OF IMRICOR**
- \* **JASON CARROLL TAKES 14.5% OF ISLAND**
- \* **CRESO, HALUCENEX EXPLORES PSYLOCIBIN FOR AUSTRALIA**

## MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 0.46 percent on Tuesday February 7, 2023, with the ASX200 down 34.9 points to 7,504.1 points. Fourteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 18 fell, five traded unchanged and three were untraded. All three Big Caps fell.

Next Science was the best on no news, up 12 cents or 18.2 percent to 78 cents, with 186,997 shares traded.

Genetic Signatures and Polynovo climbed more than three percent; Alcidion, Amplia, Atomo, Immutep, Impedimed, Mesoblast and Pharmaxis were up more than one percent; with Clinuvel, Cyclopharm, Proteomics and Starpharma up by less than one percent.

Actinogen led the falls, down 0.6 cents or 6.1 percent to 9.2 cents, with 1.1 million shares traded.

Cynata lost 4.4 percent; Dimerix, Imugene, Kazia, Micro-X, Opthea and Orthocell fell more than three percent; Medical Developments and Nanosonics shed more than two percent; Avita, Cochlear, CSL, Neuren, Paradigm, Pro Medicus, Resmed, Resonance, Telix and Volpara were down more than one percent; with Emvision down by 0.3 percent.

## MEMPHASYS

Memphasys says two publications show its Felix electrophoretic sperm separation system outperforms density gradient centrifugation (DGC) methods, in-vitro.

Memphasys said the two studies found that Felix outperformed the DGC, which was “the most globally common sperm preparation method for [in-vitro fertilization]”.

The company said the first article, titled ‘Spermatozoa isolation with Felix outperforms conventional density gradient centrifugation preparation in selecting cells with low DNA damage’, was published in the journal *Andrology* and the full article was available at:

<https://doi.org/10.1111/andr.13384>.

Memphasys said in 29 human semen samples, Felix “significantly improved spermatozoa fractions with higher progressive motility, lower sperm DNA fragmentation, and lower sperm DNA oxidation compared with raw semen and DGC-prepared spermatozoa”.

The company said the second study, titled ‘A comparison between the Felix electrophoretic system of sperm isolation and conventional density gradient centrifugation: a multi-centre analysis’, was published in the *Journal of Assisted Reproduction and Genetics* and was available at: <https://doi.org/10.1007%2Fs10815-022-02680-0>.

Memphasys said that it supported the study at centres in Australia, India, US, Sweden and China, which compared the sperm population quality isolated by the Felix system and DGC in terms of processing time, sperm concentration, motility, vitality and DNA integrity.

Memphasys said that in 112 comparisons, the Felix system was “a positive technical development capable of isolating suspensions of highly motile spermatozoa in a fraction of the time taken by conventional procedures such as DGC”.

The company said “four of the five centres reported a significant improvement in DNA integrity relative to DGC [and] one reported no statistical difference but both methods selected sperm with low DNA damage”, and the Felix system isolated sperm in a standardized six-minute preparation time, while DGC took about 40 minutes to complete. Memphasys was up 0.2 cents or 13.3 percent to 1.7 cents with four million shares traded.

## MICROBA LIFE SCIENCES

Microba says it has appointed Luminary Health Centers as a distributor for its microbiome tests, and has an initial \$US458,000 (\$A659,742) 12-month order.

Microba said the Redlands, California-based Luminary Health was “an establish wellness group which delivers genomic-driven health services to individuals across the US from clinics based in California”.

The company said Luminary had non-exclusive distribution rights to 2027.

Microba was up 4.5 cents or 12.2 percent to 41.5 cents.

## MEDLAB CLINICAL

Medlab says it has Australian Office of Drug Control export permission for its marijuana-based Nanabis to the UK, where it will be known as Nanadol.

Last year, Medlab said it had UK Medicines and Healthcare Product Regulatory Agency approval for its one-to-one tetrahydrocannabinol and cannabidiol Nanabis oral spray and last month said it had UK Home Office approval to import its Nanabis marijuana product (BD: Nov 25, 2022; Jan 25, 2023).

Today, Medlab said “several hundred units” of Nanabis were expected to be exported to partner WEP Clinical to supply UK patients.

The company did not disclose commercial terms or quantities.

Medlab fell 15 cents or 2.1 percent to \$6.85.

### [ANTERIS TECHNOLOGIES](#)

Anteris has requested a trading halt “pending an announcement in relation to a proposed capital raising”.

Yesterday, the company said it expected to have a \$50 million equity draw-down facility with Yorkville Advisors Global by the end of February, 2023 (BD: Feb 6, 2023).

Trading will resume on February 9, 2023 or on an earlier announcement.

Anteris last traded at \$24.04.

### [CARDIEX](#)

Cardiex has requested a trading halt “pending ... a proposed capital raising”.

Trading will resume on February 9, 2023 or on an earlier announcement.

Cardiex last traded at 34.5 cents.

### [IMRICOR MEDICAL SYSTEMS](#)

Black Rock Group says it has reduced its substantial holding in Imricor from 10,734,845 shares (7.09%) to 8,696,947 shares (5.74%).

The New York-based Black Rock Group said that on February 2 and 3, 2023 it sold 2,037,898 shares at prices ranging from 20.0 cents a share to 23.0 cents a share.

Imricor was unchanged at 19 cents.

### [ISLAND PHARMACEUTICALS](#)

Melbourne’s Jason Alan Carroll says he has increased his substantial holding in Island from 10,938,466 shares (13.46%) to 11,755,000 shares (14.46%).

Mr Carroll said between November 21, 2022 and February 7, 2023 he bought 816,534 shares, with the largest purchase 250,000 shares for \$50,060, or 20 cents a share.

Island was up one cent or 7.7 percent to 14 cents.

### [CRESO PHARMA](#)

Creso says wholly-owned psychedelics subsidiary Halucenex Life Sciences “is exploring opportunities to register its synthetic psilocybin formulation” in Australia.

Last week, the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration said that it would allow the prescription of psilocybin and 3,4-methylene-dioxy-meth-amphetamine (MDMA) from July 1, 2023 (BD: Feb 3, 2023).

The TGA said last week the two psychedelic drugs could be “prescribed by specifically authorized psychiatrists” and it would permit the prescription of MDMA for post-traumatic stress disorder and psilocybin for treatment-resistant depression

Today, Creso said that Halucenex was currently undertaking a 20-patient, phase II, single–arm, open-lab clinical trial which will test the efficacy of psilocybin on treatment resistant PTSD, as well as other mental illnesses such as, but not limited to, anxiety, suicidal thoughts, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, depression and anger.

Creso fell 0.1 cents or five percent to 1.9 cents with 78.6 million shares traded.