



Biotech Daily

Tuesday June 13, 2023

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX, BIOTECH UP: UNIVERSAL BIOSENSORS UP 11%;
- STARPHARMA DOWN 7%**
- * **QBIOTICS TREATS 1st TIGILANOL TIGLATE SARCOMA PATIENT**
- * **ECHO IQ: ECHOSOLV FOR 700 CARDIOVASCULAR FACILITIES**
- * **ANTERIS 'EXCELLENT' DURAVR 30-DAY RESULTS**
- * **EMVISION RECEIVES FEDERAL \$1.75m MANUFACTURING GRANT**
- * **CONTROL BIONICS RECORD MAY SALES IMPLY \$5.3m FY REVENUE**
- * **AUSCANN SELLS \$6.7m PERTH FACILITY TO OPTRAL**
- * **BIOXYNE ONLINE BLS CLINICS FOR MARIJUANA SCRIPTS**
- * **VITURA SELLS 1.5m CANVIEW MARIJUANA UNITS**
- * **ANALYTICA APPOINTS DAVID CLOUT ASSOCIATES ADMINISTRATORS**
- * **DR JOHN TARRANT, BALMAIN, CADEX TAKE 12.8% OF HEXIMA**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.32 percent on Tuesday June 13, 2023, with the ASX200 up 22.8 points to 7,122.5 points. Twenty of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 10 fell and 10 traded unchanged. All three Big Caps were up.

Universal Biosensors was the best, up 2.5 cents or 11.1 percent to 25 cents, with 184,311 shares traded. Micro-X climbed 9.4 percent; Emvision rose 6.3 percent; Imugene and Prescient improved five percent or more; Cyclopharm, Nanosonics, Pro Medicus and Telix were up more than three percent; Antisense and Proteomics rose more than two percent; Avita, Clinuvel, CSL, Genetic Signatures, Immutep, Mesoblast, Neuren, Next Science and Polynovo were up one percent or more; with Cochlear, Medical Developments and Resmed up by less than one percent.

Friday's 10.8 percent best, Starpharma, led the falls, down three cents or 7.3 percent to 38 cents, with 502,932 shares traded. Cynata, Impedimed and Nova Eye lost more than three percent; Actinogen, Compumedics, Orthocell, Paradigm and Resonance retreated more than two percent; with 4D Medical down by 1.2 percent.

[QBIOTICS GROUP](#)

Qbiotics says it has treated the first of 10 patients in its US phase II, open-label, single-arm, preliminary efficacy trial of intra-tumoral tigilanol tiglate for soft tissue sarcoma. Qbiotics said that the trial opened for recruitment for patients with advanced and/or metastatic soft tissue sarcoma in April 2023 at New York's Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre with Dr Edmund Bartlett as its principal investigator (BD: Apr 26, 2023). The company said the trial would assess the preliminary efficacy and safety of tigilanol tiglate, previously known as EBC-46.

Qbiotics managing-director Dr Victoria Gordon said the trial was "important to our overall strategy for tigilanol tiglate, where we are exploring the drug's ability to treat a range of solid tumor types".

"[Soft tissue sarcomas] are a group of rare and heterogeneous solid tumors that occur in the soft tissues of the body, such as muscles and nerves," Dr Gordon said.

"Due to the complexity of this disease, treatment is challenging," Dr Gordon said.

"We hope that through our research, we may be able to bring forward a new therapeutic option for patients suffering with this disease," Dr Gordon said.

Qbiotics said there were 124,573 new cases of soft tissue sarcomas globally in 2021.

Qbiotics is a public unlisted company.

[ECHO IQ](#)

Echo IQ says it has an agreement with Raleigh, North Carolina-based Core Sound Imaging to integrate its Echosolv aortic stenosis diagnostic system with Studycast.

Echo IQ said Core Sound Imaging's Studycast was a picture archiving and communication system used in 49 US states and territories and seven countries.

The company said the agreement included an initial integration licencing fee payable to Core Sound Imaging for the integration of Echosolv into Studycast.

Echo IQ said it would be responsible for the individual sales of Echosolv to Core Sound Imaging's clients, but the agreement allowed Studycast customers to gain access to Echosolv "almost instantly".

Echo IQ executive chair Andrew Grover said shareholders should not underestimate the value of the two-year agreement.

"Commercial take up of Echosolv is gathering pace in the US and Australia and we anticipate more revenue-gathering deployments to be reported shortly," Mr Grover said.

Echo IQ was up half a cent or 2.9 percent to 17.5 cents with 7.1 million shares traded.

[ANTERIS TECHNOLOGIES](#)

Anteris says results from seven patients in its study of Duravr transcatheter aortic valve show "excellent haemodynamic performance" at 30 days.

Anteris said the study had no failed implants and no device-related complications.

The company said the 30-day results were consistent with previous 48-hour data post-procedure and included a 168 percent increase in effective orifice areas from 0.76 sqcm at baseline to 2.04 sqcm at 30 days and a mean pressure gradient decrease of 87 percent.

Anteris chief executive officer Wayne Paterson said the results showed that the Duravr trans-catheter heart valve continued "to perform well in small annulus sizes".

"We saw greater haemodynamic improvement in these difficult-to-treat patients, and this encouraging data continues to support the thesis that Duravr THV, a new class of biomimetic valve, will be an important treatment option," Mr Paterson said.

Anteris was up 23 cents or one percent to \$22.60.

EMVISION MEDICAL DEVICES

Emvision says it has received a further \$1,750,000 milestone payment under its \$5 million Modern Manufacturing Initiative grant award from the Federal Government.

Last year, Emvision said it had received an initial \$2 million of a \$5 million grant from the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources for its first-generation portable brain scanner product (BD: Oct 25, 2022).

Today, the company said it had made “pleasing progress” towards the project milestones under the program, including design verification, progression of systems testing and certification, and preparation of technical production layouts and processes.

Emvision said the final milestones of “manufacturing capability established” and “first production run” were expected by May 2024, when the final payment \$1,250,000 was due. Emvision was up eight cents or 6.3 percent to \$1.345.

CONTROL BIONICS

Control Bionics says record monthly sales in May of \$692,000 implies that revenue for the year to June 30, 2023 is expected to be up more than 20 percent to \$5.3 million.

Control Bionics chief executive officer Jeremy Steele said the May results were “reflective of the consistent build in our pipeline over the last quarter [year]”.

The company said the rights offer closing date had been extended to June 30, 2023.

Control Bionics was up 0.4 cents or 4.4 percent to 9.4 cents.

AUSCANN GROUP

Auscann says it completed the sale of its facility at 11 Excellence Drive, Wangara, Western Australia to Optral Pty Ltd for \$6,740,000 on June 9, 2023.

In April, the company said it had a conditional sales contract for \$6,750,000 and the funds would be used “for a proposed material acquisition and working capital” (BD: Apr 4, 2023).

Auscann was in a suspension and last traded at four cents.

BIOXYNE

Bioxyne says it has launched Breathe Life Sciences Clinics telehealth for consultations to prescribe medical marijuana for patients with chronic health conditions.

Bioxyne said the service was developed in co-operation with Breathe Life Sciences and powered by technology partner Instantscripts.

Last month, the company said it had acquired Breathe Life Sciences and had appointed Sam Watson as its chief executive officer (BD: May 22, 2023).

Today, Bioxyne said Breathe had plant-based therapies that encompassed a wide range of compounds and the licences to import, export, wholesale and manufacture Schedule 3,4, and 8 controlled substances including cannabis and ketamine.

Bioxyne said Breathe was awaiting an Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration inspection, which was scheduled for September 2023.

The company said the BLS Clinics allowed “authorized prescribers can prescribe plant-based therapies to eligible patients in a variety of forms including oils, capsules, and dried flower, and containing ingredients including cannabinoids, flavonoids, and terpenes”.

Mr Watson said BLS Clinics’ mission was “to democratize healthcare and pharma to be a global leader in the manufacture and supply of novel medicines, healthcare and health-tech solutions, pioneering new age treatments and cures”.

Bioxyne fell 0.3 cents or 12 percent to 2.2 cents.

VITURA HEALTH

Vitura says it has sold its one-and-a-half millionth unit of medical marijuana through its Canview platform, which has been shipped to one of its more than 3,600 customers.

Vitura said Canview was launched in June 2020, stocked more than 250 product lines from about 35 suppliers of medical marijuana in Australia.

The company said it had sold the one millionth unit milestone in December 2022 and was confident of reaching two million units by the end of 2023.

Vitura executive director Rodney Cocks said the company was “very proud to recognize such a significant milestone”.

“The deployment of the Canview 2.0 software is nearing completion, which will offer patients, prescribers, pharmacists and suppliers increased functionality, ease of use and efficiencies that is expected to drive further adoption and usage,” Mr Cocks said.

Vitura fell half a cent or 1.3 percent to 37.5 cents.

ANALYTICA

Analytica says it has appointed Brisbane’s David Clout and Associates as voluntary administrators to oversee the affairs of the company, effective from June 12, 2023.

Analytica said David Clout and Scott Clout would undertake “a review and assessment of [its] business and financial position before making recommendations” as to its future.

Analytica was in a suspension and last traded at 0.1 cents.

HEXIMA

Sydney’s Dr John Tarrant says he has increased his substantial shareholding in Hexima from 18,426,187 shares (11.03%) to 21,409,105 shares (12.82%).

Dr Tarrant said that through Balmain Resources Pty Ltd and Cadex Petroleum Pty Ltd, on June 8 and 9, 2023, he bought 2,982,918 for \$41,858, or an average of 1.4 cents a share.

Hexima was up 0.2 cents or 12.5 percent to 1.8 cents.