



Biotech Daily

Thursday July 20, 2023

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX FLAT, BIOTECH DOWN: NEUREN UP 6%; TELIX DOWN 15%**
- * **TELIX RECORD H1 RECEIPTS OF \$195.3m**
- * **LUMOS RECEIPTS DOWN 50% TO \$10m**
- * **IDT 'OVER-SUBSCRIBED' SHARE PLAN RAISES \$2.1m; TOTAL \$7.1m**
- * **ANTISENSE PLAN FOR \$1.5m**
- * **QUEENSLAND \$79m FOR START-UPS, INNOVATION**
- * **MICRO-X DELIVERS 1st ADF HOSPITAL ROVER PLUS MOBILE X-RAY**
- * **IMUGENE TO DOSE CF33 WITH RENOVORX'S TAMP PLATFORM**
- * **FIREBRICK 'HOPEFUL' FOR NASODINE TGA APPEAL**
- * **NYRADA COSTS REVIEW, HALVES DIRECTORS FEES SAVING \$300k**
- * **HERREID, KAHR DILUTED TO 7% OF IMRICOR; SIEMENS TO 5.4%**
- * **ORCHID TAKES 16% OF OPTISCAN**
- * **AUSBIOTECH 'HELP DESIGN \$392m INDUSTRY GROWTH PROGRAM'**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.02 percent on Thursday July 20, 2023, with the ASX200 up 1.3 points to 7,325.0 points. Fifteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 20 fell, four traded unchanged and one was untraded. All three Big Caps fell.

Neuren was the best, up 86 cents or 6.3 percent to \$14.48, with 1.4 million shares traded. Resonance climbed 6.0 percent; Orthocell, Pharmaxis and Starpharma improved more than five percent; Micro-X and Next Science were up more than four percent; Genetic Signatures, Medical Developments and Proteomics were up more than three percent; 4D Medical and SDI rose more than two percent; with Cyclopharm, Nanosonics and Pro Medicus up by less than one percent.

Telix led the falls, on exceptionally good news, down \$1.78 or 14.6 percent to \$10.38, with 8.2 million shares traded (see below). 'Go figure' - as they say. Antisense lost 9.8 percent; Compumedics, Impedimed and Patrys were down more than eight percent; Kazia was down 7.1 percent; Dimerix, Imugene and Nova Eye fell four percent or more; Emvision lost 3.3 percent; Actinogen, Avita, Clinuvel and Universal Biosensors shed more than two percent; Immuteq, Prescient and Volpara fell more than one percent; with Cochlear, CSL, Opthea, Paradigm, Polynovo and Resmed down by less than one percent.

TELIX PHARMACEUTICALS

Telix says receipts from customers rose by 2,560.1 percent from \$7,343,000 for the six months to June 30, 2022 to \$195,330,000 for the half-year to June 30, 2023.

Telix said customer receipts, primarily from sales of its Illuccix prostate imaging kits, for the three months to June 30, 2023 were \$112,161,000, up 1,962.9 percent compared to the previous corresponding period.

The company said it had a positive cash flow of \$13,258,000 million for the half year, with cash and cash equivalents of \$131,729,000 at June 30, 2023, compared to \$122,608,000 at June 30, 2022.

Telix said its research and development spend for the six months was \$48,182,000, or 24.7 percent of total revenue, with product manufacturing and operating costs amounting to \$73,391,000.

Telix chief executive officer Dr Christian Behrenbruch said the three months to June 30 was "another strong quarter for Telix, characterized by the ongoing trend of double-digit revenue growth from sales of Illuccix and continued positive operating cash flow".

"This is reflective of our excellent commercial performance and strength in [prostate-specific membrane antigen positron emission tomography] imaging in all of Telix's operating markets," Dr Behrenbruch said.

"Simultaneously we are focused on the marketing authorization of two further products for kidney and brain cancer imaging," Dr Behrenbruch said.

"Following successful planning meetings with the US Food and Drug Administration, we are focused on preparing regulatory marketing applications, scaling up manufacturing and preparing for future product approvals and launch," Dr Behrenbruch said.

"Momentum also continues to build with our therapeutic pipeline, with clear clinical progress delivered across our prostate, kidney and glioblastoma programs," Dr Behrenbruch said. "This activity is reflected in our investment in research and development, which remains in line with our stated plan."

Telix fell \$1.78 or 14.6 percent to \$10.38 with 8.2 million shares traded.

LUMOS DIAGNOSTICS HOLDINGS

Lumos says that receipts from customers for the year to June 30, 2023 were down 50.2 percent to \$US6,985,000 (\$A10,248,182) compared to the previous year.

Lumos said that revenue for the three months to June 30, 2023, primarily from sales of its Febridx finger-prick blood test that distinguishes viral and bacterial infections, was up 29.7 percent to \$2,938,000 compared to the previous corresponding period.

The company said it had cash burn of \$US961,000 for the three months to June 30, cash and equivalents of \$US3,015,000, and 5.9 quarters of funding, compared to \$US7,974,000 at June 30, 2022.

Lumos was unchanged at 6.9 cents with 26.0 million shares traded.

IDT AUSTRALIA

IDT says it has raised about \$2.1 million through an "over-subscribed" share plan at 6.5 cents a share, taking the total raised with the recent placement to \$7.1 million.

In June, IDT said it had "firm commitments" for a placement to raise \$5.0 million at 6.5 cents a share, with a share plan of about \$2.0 million to follow (BD: Jun 5, 2023).

Today, the company said the funds would be used to for its capital expenditure program and additional working capital purposes.

IDT was unchanged at 6.9 cents.

ANTISENSE

Antisense says it hopes to raise about \$1.5 million through a share plan at five cents a share, an 18.0 percent discount to the last traded price.

Earlier this week, Antisense said it had raised \$8.35 million in a placement at five cents a share, with a share plan to come.

Today, the company said the share plan had a record date of July 19, would open on July 28 and close on August 16, 2023.

Antisense fell 0.6 cents or 9.8 percent to 5.5 cents with 3.3 million shares traded.

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT

The Queensland Government says it has a \$4 million innovation grant program, as well as a \$75 million investment that had been “at least” matched by firms.

The Government said more than 80 venture capital firms and accelerators had applied to partner with its \$75 million Queensland Venture Capital Development Fund to accelerate support for local start-ups.

The Queensland Government said the development fund had a “strong focus” on health technology, agricultural technology, climate energy and water sectors.

In addition to the development fund, the Government said its \$4 million strategic initiatives program opened on July 20, 2023 to deliver grants of up-to \$300,000 to innovation precincts to develop “best-practice governance frameworks” investment attraction and operational assessment strategies.

The Queensland Government said the strategic initiatives program was the first stream of its three-year \$15 million Queensland Innovation Precincts and Places Fund, which aimed to help with the commercialization, adoption and diffusion of innovation-related ideas, with the latter two streams of the Fund to open “later this year”.

MICRO-X

Micro-X says it has delivered its first Rover Plus mobile x-ray system under the Australian Defence Forces (ADF) deployable hospital program.

Micro-X said the delivery was part of a \$1.3m contract with Saab Australia.

The company said that the Rover Plus was “well-suited for demanding environments such as deployed hospitals” and its recent experience in Ukraine had “strong positive feedback from local medical teams”.

Micro-X said that the ADF’s upgrade of its deployable medical capabilities included more than 550 deployable medical modules with support infrastructure to standards used across all North Atlantic Treaty Organisation militaries.

The company said the Rover Plus was an ultra-lightweight, about 100kg, mobile x-ray unit capable of providing high quality imaging at the point-of-care.

Micro-X said that the smaller size and enhanced manoeuvrability combined with hospital-grade imaging capability made the Rover Plus “highly suitable for specialized needs in military deployed hospitals”.

Micro-X chief executive officer Kingsley Hall said the company was “very pleased to supply our Australian-made, world-leading Micro-X Rover Plus systems to support Australian Defence personnel at home and in areas of conflict”.

“Our Micro-X Rover has proven its capability in challenging locations and war-zones having been used throughout Ukraine by the Ukrainian Army and in hospitals in developing countries throughout the Pacific,” Mr Hall said.

Micro-X was up half a cent or 4.55 percent to 11.5 cents.

IMUGENE

Imugene says it will investigate administering its CF33 oncolytic virus technology through Renovorx's trans-arterial micro-perfusion therapy platform (Tamp).

Imugene said the San Jose, California based Renovorx developed its Tamp platform to treat difficult-to-access tumors, such as pancreatic and liver cancers.

The company said that administering CF33 through the TAMP platform might be more beneficial to patients than traditional administration methods, where dense fibrous tissue and lack of blood vessels supplying tumors might limit therapy uptake.

The company said the collaboration would be funded from existing budgets and resources for a term of up-to four months with the intent by both parties to expand the partnership upon success.

Imugene fell half a cent or 4.8 percent to 10 cents with 45.0 million shares traded.

FIREBRICK PHARMA

Firebrick says it hopes to reach agreement with the Australia Therapeutics Goods Administration (TGA) following discussions about the approval of its Nasodine nasal spray.

Last year, Firebrick said it would appeal against the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) decision not to approve its Betadine-based anti-viral Nasodine nasal spray based on the data (BD: Mar 1, 2022).

The company said the meeting with the TGA, moderated by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal was "cordial with a frank exchange on the issues" with the TGA.

Firebrick said that discussions were ongoing.

Firebrick was up half a cent or 2.6 percent to 19.5 cents.

NYRADA INC

Nyrada says it will review its operating costs and financial plans, with directors agreeing to halve their director fees effective from today, saving \$300,000.

Nyrada said any director fees accrued up to today would be paid at the full rate, with other initiatives under consideration.

Nyrada chair John Moore said the board was "focused on cost reductions to extend our cash runway while ensuring the ultimate success of Nyrada".

According to its website, the \$8.6 million market capitalization Nyrada has six directors, including chair Mr Moore.

Nyrada was up 1.6 cents or 37.2 percent to 5.9 cents.

IMRICOR MEDICAL SYSTEMS

Imricor says US-based investors Warren G Herreid II and the KAHF Foundation and Siemens Medical Solutions have been diluted following a private placement.

Imricor said Warren G Herreid II & KAHR reduced and was diluted from 10,771,092 shares (8.59%) to 10,770,419 shares (6.96%).

The company said the Siemens 8,384,150 share-holding was diluted from 6.68 percent to 5.42 percent.

On Tuesday, Imricor said that it had raised \$US1 million (\$A1.46 million) through a private placement to a HR Global Investments at 35 US cents (51.0 Australian cents) a share (BD: Jul 18, 2023).

Imricor was unchanged at 40 cents.

OPTISCAN IMAGING

Orchid Capital Investments Pte Ltd says it has increased its substantial shareholding in Optiscan from 89,485,000 shares (15.00%) to 119,313,333 shares (16.21%).

The Singapore-based Orchid said it bought 29,828,333 shares on July 18, 2023 for \$2,386,266.64 or eight cents a share.

Last week, Optiscan said it had raised \$8,784,701 through a one-for-three, pro rata entitlement offer at eight cents a share and had placed the \$7,914,115 shortfall to its underwriters, for a total of \$16,698,816 (BD: Jul 13, 2023).

Optiscan was untraded at 8.5 cents.

AUSBIOTECH, FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Ausbiotech says it will host an online “roundtable” for members to help design the Federal Government’s \$392.4 million Industry Growth Program.

Last month, the Federal Government launched a discussion paper on the design and operation of the Industry Growth Program with the Federal Minister for Industry and Science Ed Husic saying the program was intended “to support small businesses get their great ideas to market and overcome barriers to scale” (BD: Jun 28, 2023).

The Government said that the program would target priority areas under the \$15 billion National Reconstruction Fund including: medical science; renewables and low emission technologies; value-add in agriculture, forestry and fisheries; value-add in resources; transport; defence capability; and enabling capabilities.

Ausbiotech said the Industry Growth Program was managed by the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and aimed to help commercialize ideas and develop businesses, attract investment, as well increase workforce and revenue and be combined with grants.

The industry organization said the Department of Industry, Science and Resources intended to engage expert advice and partner with other organizations, drawing on their expertise and networks.

Ausbiotech said that under the program, matched funding grants would last for 24 months and range from \$50,000 to \$250,000 for early-stage commercialization projects, with the remainder of the grants ranging from \$100,000 to \$5 million.

The industry organization said its members input could shape project and company eligibility criteria, diversity and inclusion considerations, capabilities and resources for partner organizations to provide expert advice, governance and grant assessment, as well as what would measure for success.

Ausbiotech said the roundtable would be held on July 25, 2023 at 4pm (AEST).

The consultation paper is available at: www.bit.ly/3pY8Ggw.

To attend rsvp to: admin@ausbiotech.org.