



Biotech Daily

Wednesday September 6, 2023

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: CYNATA UP 12%; NEXT SCIENCE DOWN 7%**
- * **MTP CONNECT: BIOMEDTECH \$30.3m LEVERAGES INDUSTRY \$36m**
- * **IMRICOR RECEIVES \$1.8m NORTH DAKOTA INNOVATION GRANT**
- * **VIETNAM ISSUES RECCE TRADEMARK**
- * **MEDIBIO 135m DIRECTOR OPTIONS, 20-TO-1 CONSOLIDATION EGM**
- * **BAKER BROS BELOW 5% OF OPTHEA**
- * **CHARLES MORGAN REDUCES TO 5% OF CLARITY**
- * **DR NICHOLAS HARTNELL, ROBINWOOD TAKE 44% OF ALLEGRA**
- * **CHAIR, M-D GEOFFREY KEMPLER REPLACES 3 HEXIMA DIRECTORS**
- * **VITURA LOSES CHAIR DR SIMONE SCOVELL, DR MARCIA WALKER INTERIM**
- * **INOVIQ CSO GREGORY RICE WINS PLACENTOLOGY GONG**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 0.78 percent on Wednesday September 6, 2023 with the ASX200 down 57.2 points to 7,257.1 points. Ten of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 18 fell, eight traded unchanged and four were untraded.

Cynata was the best, up 1.5 cents or 12.0 percent to 14 cents, with 74,112 shares traded. Starpharma climbed 10.7 percent; Actinogen, Micro-X and Resonance improved more than four percent; Atomo and Kazia were up more than three percent; Proteomics and Telix rose more than two percent; Neuren was up 1.05 percent; with CSL up by 0.1 percent.

Next Science led the falls, down 3.5 cents or 7.1 percent to 45.5 cents, with 190,299 shares traded. Impedimed lost 5.7 percent; 4D Medical and Imugene fell more than four percent; Avita, Clinuvel and Paradigm shed more than three percent; Compumedics, Nova Eye, Prescient, Resmed and Volpara were down two percent or more; Emvision, Genetic

Signatures, Medical Developments, Mesoblast and Polynovo were down more than one percent; with Cochlear, Nanosonics and Pro Medicus down by less than one percent.

MTP CONNECT

MTP Connect says the second phase of the Biomedtech Horizons program awarded \$30.3 million in funding, followed by a further \$36 million in industry contributions.

MTP Connect said the program was a Medical Research Future Fund initiative designed and delivered by MTP Connect to support “early-stage medical device developments” as they moved towards commercialization.

The company said the 38 supported projects included ophthalmology, cardiovascular disease, orthopaedics, neo-natal care, oncology and trauma.

MTP Connect chief executive officer Stuart Dignam said “companies supported through this phase of the ... program have really captured the interest of investors, taking the \$30.3 million in program funding and going on to secure at least \$479 million of further flow-on and external investment”.

“Seventy-nine percent of the projects have so far been successful in securing flow-on funding and 92 percent of that has been secured from seed, angel, private investments or series A, B or C financing,” Mr Dignam said.

“With its focus on commercial outcomes, the program has supported the creation of 306 jobs, seen 87 medical technologies progressed towards commercialization, 27 human clinical studies and trials initiated or completed and eight technologies receive marketing approval,” Mr Dignam said.

MTP Connect said the program had helped eight products that were currently in use, including 3D Morphic’s titanium implants for spinal fusion, Artrya’s Salix heart disease diagnostic software, Neuromersive’s stroke, brain and spine injury rehabilitation system, Zip Diagnostic’s Zip P2 instrument for Covid-19 diagnostic and Seer Medical’s epilepsy episode tracker.

The organization said details on the 38 projects funded by the program was available at: https://www.mtpconnect.org.au/images/BMTH_ImpactReport_2023.pdf.

IMRICOR MEDICAL SYSTEMS

Imricor says it has received \$US1.158 million (\$A1.793 million) from the North Dakota Department of Agriculture’s Bioscience Innovation Grant program.

Imricor said the grant would support its remaining US approval process, including its Vision-magnetic resonance imaging ablation of atrial flutter (Visabl-AFL) trial and subsequent US Food and Drug Administration review.

Imricor chief executive officer Steve Wedan said the funding would “help bring real-time [interventional cardiac magnetic resonance imaging] ablation technology to patients and physicians in the United States”.

Imricor was up 1.5 cents or 2.5 percent to 61.5 cents.

RECCE PHARMACEUTICALS

Recce says it has been issued a trademark covering its “antibiotics, antibiotics for human use [and] pharmaceutical preparations, namely mixed antibiotic preparations”.

Recce said the ‘Recce’ trademark was issued by the Intellectual Property Office of Vietnam.

The company said with patents pending in Vietnam, the trademark strengthened its intellectual property portfolio and built upon trademarks already registered in the US, Israel, China, Australia, Japan, Hong Kong and Europe.

Recce fell two cents or 2.9 percent to 67 cents.

MEDIBIO

Medibio says its extraordinary general meeting will vote to issue 135 million director options and conduct a 20-to-one consolidation.

Medibio said shareholders would vote to issue 60,750,000 options, 47,250,000 options and 27,000,000 options, respectively, to directors David Trimboli, Christopher Ntoumenopoulos and Dr Thomas Young, exercisable at 3.0 cents each within three years of their issue date.

The company said shareholders would vote to issue Mr Trimboli and Mr Ntoumenopoulos 45,194,513 shares and 18,589,746 shares in lieu of payment of director fees, at 0.15 cents a share.

Medibio said that eight further resolutions related to the approval of placement shares and options.

The meeting will be held at The Como Treasury Hotel Executive Boardroom, 1 Cathedral Avenue, Perth on October 6, 2023 at 10am (AWST).

Medibio was unchanged at 0.15 cents.

OPTHEA

New York's Baker Bros Advisors says it has ceased its substantial holding in Opthea, selling shares between September 28, 2022 and September 1, 2023.

Last year, Baker Bros said it held 28,763,289 shares (7.1%) (BD: Aug 25, 2022).

Today, Baker Bros said that in more than 150 transactions it bought, borrowed, converted, returned and sold Australian shares and American Depository shares, with the largest sale on December 8, 2022 of 87,693 shares for \$86,369, or 98.49 cents a share.

Opthea was unchanged at 43 cents.

CLARITY PHARMACEUTICALS

Charles Waite Morgan says he has reduced his substantial shareholding in Clarity from 18,593,040 shares (7.26%) to 13,162,861 shares (5.03%).

The Perth-based Mr Morgan said that between January 10 and September 1, 2023 he sold 5,430,179 shares, with the single largest sale on September 1 of 5,000,000 shares for \$4,972,500, or 99.45 cents a share.

Clarity was up 4.5 cents or 4.5 percent to \$1.05.

ALLEGRA ORTHOPAEDICS

Allegra director Dr Nicholas Hartnell and Robinwood Investments say they have increased their holding from 39,499,038 shares (37.81%) to 52,257,354 shares (43.69%).

Last week, Allegra said it sold its orthopaedic division to Robinwood for \$4.3 million, an entity associated with director Dr Hartnell (BD: Aug 29, 2023).

Today, the Bowral, New South Wales-based Mr Hartnell said that on September 4, 2023 he and Robinwood acquired 12,758,316 shares for \$1,148,248 or 9.0 cents a share through the settlement of a convertible loan agreement with Allegra.

Allegra fell 0.1 cents or 1.6 percent to six cents.

HEXIMA

Hexima says it has appointed Geoffrey Kempler chair and managing director, with US-based directors Michael Aldridge, Scott Robertson and Jake Nunn resigning.

Hexima said Mr Kempler was appointed to the role following the death of former chair Prof Jonathan West.

The company said Mr Kempler was the founder and current chair of Alterity (then Prana Biotech) and was currently the chair of Ausbiotech, and was previously a director of Opthea and previously Circadian.

Hexima said Mr Kempler would be paid a base salary of \$52,000 and, pending shareholder approval, issued 3,500,000 options exercisable at 150 percent of the greater of the 60-day volume weighted average price and closing price on September 6, 2023.

The company said Hexima said Mr Kempler held a Bachelor of Science from Melbourne's Monash University.

Hexima was unchanged at 2.3 cents.

VITURA HEALTH (FORMERLY CRONOS AUSTRALIA)

Vitura says that chair Dr Simone Scovell has resigned from the company effective from today.

Vitura said that director Dr Marcia Walker would assume the role of interim chair while a search for an independent non-executive chair was conducted.

The company said that Dr Scovell had resigned "after a record financial year at the helm of Vitura to turn her attention to personal business interests".

Vitura said that Dr Scovell joined the board in September 2022 and was appointed chair in February 2023.

Vitura was unchanged at 35.5 cents.

INOVIQ

Inoviq says chief scientific officer Prof Gregory Rice won the Joan Hunt Senior Award in Placentology at the International Federation of Placenta Associations meeting.

Inoviq said the meeting was held in Rotorua, New Zealand and the award was the "highest distinction of the international placental research community" and recognized a significant contribution to the understanding of placental and reproductive functions.

Inoviq said that Prof Rice discussed the potential for extracellular vesicle signaling in understanding maternal-foetal communication and the opportunities for non-invasive prenatal testing and therapeutic intervention.

Inoviq fell 6.5 cents or 10 percent to 58.5 cents.

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