



Biotech Daily

Wednesday November 29, 2023

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX UP, BIOTECH EVEN: UNIVERSAL BIOSENSORS UP 11%; PATRYS DOWN 14%**
- * **FISHER & PAYKEL H1 REVENUE UP 16% TO \$747m, PROFIT UP 12% TO \$100m**
- * **CONTROL BIONICS RIGHTS OFFER RAISES \$1.7m OF HOPED-FOR \$2.7m**
- * **GENTEGRA CHEMICAL PROTECTION FOR TRAJAN NEOTERYX MITRA**
- * **4D MEDICAL: PHILIPS TO SELL XV LUNG IMAGING IN US CLINICS**
- * **CLARITY TREATS 67-CU SAR-BIS-PSMA PROSTATE CANCER COHORT 3**
- * **BCAL BEGINS INDIAN BREASTEST CANCER TRIAL**
- * **ONCOSIL 1st 'PANCOSIL' PANCREATIC CANCER TRIAL PATIENT TREATED**
- * **FIREBRICK WINS SOUTH AFRICA NASODINE COVID-19 PATENT**
- * **PARADIGM REMUNERATION REPORT 1st STRIKE; 2 AGM RESOLUTIONS LOST**
- * **LBT AGM 45.6% OPPOSE 40% DIRECTOR FEE-POOL HIKE**
- * **MESOBLAST AGM 37% OPPOSE WILLIAM BURNS RE-ELECTION**
- * **ALTERITY AGM 19.7% OPPOSE REMUNERATION REPORT**
- * **GENETIC SIGNATURES AGM 15% OPPOSE REMUNERATION REPORT**
- * **BLUECHIIP RECEIVES \$931k FEDERAL R&D TAX INCENTIVE**
- * **GOODBYE INCANNEX**
- * **RESPIRI REQUESTS 'CAPITAL RAISING' TRADING HALT**
- * **BIOCURATE APPOINTS DR KATHY NIELSEN CEO**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.29 percent on Wednesday November 29, 2023, with the ASX200 up 20.1 points to 7,035.3 points. Thirteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 13 fell, 11 traded unchanged and three were untraded. All three Big Caps were up.

Universal Biosensors was the best, up 2.5 cents or 11.1 percent to 25 cents, with 142,592 shares traded. 4D Medical climbed 8.15 percent; Imugene improved five percent; Atomo was up 4.8 percent; Clinuvel, Cochlear, CSL, Genetic Signatures, Next Science, Polynovo, Prescient and Resmed rose two percent or more; Paradigm and Pro Medicus were up one percent or more; with Nanosonics and Telix up by less than one percent.

Patrys led the falls, down 0.1 cents or 14.3 percent to 0.6 cents, with 17.4 million shares traded. Compumedics and Emvision fell more than five percent; Avita, Dimerix and Nova Eye were down more than three percent; Medical Developments, Opthea, Proteomics and SDI shed two percent or more; Alcidion and Mesoblast were down by more than one percent; with Neuren down by 0.7 percent.

FISHER & PAYKEL HEALTHCARE

Fisher & Paykel says revenue for the six months to September 30, 2023 was up 16.4 percent to \$NZ803.7 million (\$A746.9 million), with net profit after tax up 11.9 percent to \$NZ107.3 million (\$A99.7 million).

Fisher & Paykel said it had \$NZ487.5 million in revenue from its hospital products, which included humidification products for respiratory, acute and surgical care.

The company said its homecare products, which included obstructive sleep apnoea and respiratory support treatments at home, had revenue of \$NZ314.4 million.

Fisher & Paykel chief executive officer Lewis Gradon said the result "indicates a continuation of stable ordering patterns in our hospital business and a robust performance for homecare".

The company said it would pay an interim dividend of 18.0 cents per share, up from 17.5 cents the previous year, on December 18, 2023 for shareholders on the record date of December 6, 2023.

Fisher & Paykel said diluted earnings per share were up 11.5 percent to 18.4 NZ cents, with net tangible asset per share down 1.5 percent to \$NZ2.68.

The company said that it had cash and cash equivalents of \$NZ70.5 million at September 30, 2023 compared to \$NZ69.8 million on September 30, 2022.

Fisher & Paykel was up \$1.62 or 7.9 percent to \$22.20 with 1.4 million shares traded.

CONTROL BIONICS

Control Bionics says its non-renounceable rights offer raised \$620,610, with \$1.07 million underwritten, for a total of \$1.627 million, of a hoped-for \$2.73 million.

In October, Control Bionics said that it hoped to raise up-to \$2.73 million in a two-for-three, non-renounceable rights offer at 4.0 cents a share, with more than \$1 million underwritten (BD: Oct 30, 2023).

Control Bionics chief executive officer Jeremy Steele said the proceeds would support the commercialization of its Neurostrip technology.

Control Bionics was unchanged at 3.8 cents.

TRAJAN GROUP

Trajan says the Northern California-based Gentegra has custom-designed a chemical protective agent to be sold with its Neoteryx Mitra micro-sampling device.

In an email not released on the ASX, Trajan said the protective agent Gentegra RNA-Neo was for use on the absorbent Volumetric absorptive microsampling (Vams) tips on Mitra devices and would protect it against naturally occurring nucleases and environmental stresses that could degrade the RNA in blood samples.

The company said the treated devices were intended to provide researchers with high-quality RNA recovery from remote blood microsamples that didn't require cold-shipping or storage for up-to seven days before extraction.

Trajan said the treated Mitra devices could be used in studies in miRNA and mRNA therapy development, biomarker discovery, pharmacogenomics, transcriptomics and omics studies, as well as clinical trial screening.

Trajan Scientific Americas chief scientific officer Dr Stuart Kushon said the partnership made it "easier for researchers to access high-quality RNA samples".

Trajan was up 1.5 cents or 1.2 percent to \$1.27.

4D MEDICAL

4D Medical says it has an agreement with the Amsterdam-based Koninklijke Philips NV to include its XV lung x-ray technology in its product catalogue in the US.

4D Medical said 50 percent of US Veterans Health Administration's clinics used Philips' imaging systems, with the partnership allowing Phillips to offer 4D Medical's lung imaging as a screening option for veterans exposed to burn pits.

The company said Philips had a 45-year relationship with the Department of Defence.

4D Medical said that with Philips it intended to expand access to the technology in the US, including other US-based Federal agencies and commercial organizations, as well as potentially outside North America.

4D Medical was up 7.5 cents or 8.15 percent to 99.5 cents with 5.5 million shares traded.

CLARITY PHARMACEUTICALS

Clarity says it has treated three patients in the final cohort of its phase I/II trial of copper-64 and copper-67 Sar-bombesin for metastatic, castrate-resistant prostate cancer.

In August, Clarity said that its 'Secure' 30 patient, trial of 67-copper sarcophagine-Bis-prostate specific membrane antigen (Sar-Bis-PSMA) for prostate cancer would start its third and highest dose cohort (BD: Aug 10, 2023).

Today, the company Clarity said all three patients received the highest dose level of 12GBq, with no dose limiting toxicities reported in the larger trial so far.

Clarity said all three patients had been heavily "pre-treated" and failed other commercial and investigational therapies prior to the trial, with two of the three showing a reduction in prostate specific antigen within weeks after a single cycle of copper-67 Sar-bis-PSMA.

Clarity was up four cents or 3.2 percent to \$1.30 with 1.1 million shares traded.

BCAL DIAGNOSTICS

Bcal says it has begun a trial of its Breastest blood-based lipidomic breast cancer test with the Krishna Institute and Indo-American Hospitals in Hyderabad.

Bcal said the study would evaluate the feasibility of implementing sample collection and preparation workflows at the Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) and Basavatarakam Indo-American Hospital in Hyderabad, India.

The company said that the predicted five-year survival rate for Indian women diagnosed with breast cancer was 66.1 percent, compared to 90.2 percent in the US and 89.5 percent in Australia, with late-stage diagnosis of breast cancer being one of the main reasons for poor prognosis of the disease.

Bcal said if breast cancer was diagnosed early, before it spread, the five-year survival rate could be increased to as high as 99.0 percent.

The company said its Breastest blood test could help remove barriers to early detection, including accessibility issues due to only major and mid-sized Indian cities having screening facilities, lack of skilled personnel given the number of available radiologists in India is one per 100,000, cultural barriers including rural women unwilling to test unless their condition was severe, and expensive prices.

Bcal chair Jayne Shaw said "this partnership with premier Indian medical institutions KIMS Hospitals and Basavartarakam Indo-American Hospitals, led by ... Dr Raghu Ram Pillarisetti marks a major advance for Bcal, as it strives to make its proprietary technology available to women globally and contribute to the improved survivability of breast cancer patients in India".

Bcal was up half a cent or five percent to 10.5 cents.

ONCOSIL MEDICAL

Oncosil says an investigator-led pancreatic cancer trial has treated the first patient of up to 20 patients in Amsterdam.

In June, Oncosil said it had ethics approval for the trial of percutaneously applied radiotherapy for advanced pancreatic cancer (BD: Jun 5, 2023).

Oncosil was up 0.05 cents or 6.25 percent to 0.85 cents with 1.1 million shares traded.

FIREBRICK

Firebrick says the South Africa patent office has granted a patent for its Betadine-based Nasodine nasal spray for Covid-19.

Firebrick said the patent, titled 'Prevention of Infection by Highly Pathogenic Viruses Using Topical Application of Povidone-Iodine on Mucous Membranes', would protect its intellectual property until 2041.

The company said that the patent had previously been granted in the US and Australia and acceptance in other countries was pending.

Firebrick was up 0.1 cents or 1.7 percent to 5.9 cents with 1.1 million shares traded.

PARADIGM BIOPHARMACEUTICALS

Paradigm says investors voted a 25.33 percent remuneration report first strike, with up to 46.5 percent defeating the placement capacity and changes to the constitution.

Paradigm said the remuneration report was opposed by 19,400,622 votes (25.33%), with 57,175,753 votes (74.67%) in favor.

Under the Corporations Amendment (Improving Accountability on Director and Executive Remuneration) Act 2011 any company sustaining a vote of 25 percent or more against the remuneration report in two successive annual meetings is required to vote on a board spill and if passed the directors must stand for re-election within 90 days.

The company said that special resolutions to amend its constitution were defeated with 56,064,312 votes (46.53%) in opposition and the resolution to approve its placement capacity was defeated with 41,845,537 opposition votes (34.63%).

Paradigm said the remaining resolutions all passed more easily.

According to its most recent filing, Paradigm had 350,889,175 shares on issue, meaning the votes against changes to its constitution, amounted to 16.0 percent of the company, sufficient to requisition extraordinary general meetings.

Paradigm was up half a cent or 1.3 percent to 39.5 cents.

LBT INNOVATIONS

LBT says its annual general meeting passed all resolutions but voted up-to 45.64 percent against increasing the directors' fee pool by 40.35 percent to \$400,000.

LBT said the increased aggregate directors' fee pool was opposed by 175,050,825 votes (45.64%), with 208,465,717 votes (54.36%) in favor.

The company said the issue of shares to chair Joanne Moss and the approval of the placement capacity faced 6.46 percent and 7.72 percent dissent, respectively, and that the remaining resolutions passed with more than 97.39 percent in favor.

According to its most recent filing, LBT had 1,155,900,323 shares on issue, meaning that the 175,050,825 votes against the increased director fee pool amounted to about 15.1 percent of the company, sufficient to requisition extraordinary general meetings.

LBT was up one cent or 125 percent to 1.8 cents with 4.6 million shares traded.

MESOBLAST

Mesoblast says its annual general meeting passed all resolutions, but with up-to 37.1 percent opposition to the re-election of William Burns as a director.

Mesoblast said 86,853,068 votes (37.14%) were opposed Mr Burns' re-election, with 146,975,404 (62.86%) in favor.

The company said all other resolutions were passed more easily, but with more than 13.0 percent opposition to the issue of shares to chief executive Prof Silviu Itescu, Dr Eric Rose and Dr Philip Krause.

According to its most recent filing, Mesoblast had 814,204,825 shares on offer, meaning that the 86,853,068 votes against Mr Burns' re-election amounted to 10.7 percent of the company, sufficient to requisition extraordinary general meetings.

Mesoblast fell half a cent or 1.2 percent to 41.5 cents with 2.9 million shares traded.

ALTERITY THERAPEUTICS

Alterity says its annual general meeting passed all resolutions, but with up-to 19.71 percent opposition to the remuneration report.

Alterity said the remuneration report was opposed by 21,954,866 votes (19.71%), with 89,426,169 votes (80.29%) in favor.

The company said the resolutions to re-elect directors Peter Marks and Lawrence Gozlan, ratify the issue of shares and approve its 10 percent placement capacity were all passed with between 11.82 percent and 13.88 percent dissent.

According to its most recent filing, Alterity had 2,802,360,380 shares on issue, meaning that the 21,954,866 votes against the remuneration report amounted to 0.08 percent of the company, not sufficient to requisition extraordinary general meetings.

Alterity was up 0.1 cents or 33.3 percent to 0.4 cents with 21.0 million shares traded.

GENETIC SIGNATURES

Genetic Signatures says investors passed all resolutions with more than 14.25 percent against the remuneration report and the re-election of director Dr Nickolaos Samaras.

Genetic Signatures said the remuneration report was opposed by 11,160,442 votes (14.74%), with 64,536,266 votes (85.26%) in support.

The company said that the re-election of Dr Samaras was opposed by 11,242,369 votes (14.25%), with 67,659,625 votes (85.75%) in favor.

Genetic Signatures said the remaining resolutions to approve the issue of options to director Caroline Waldron and the re-election of director Dr Neil Gunn passed easily with more than 99.0 percent in favor.

According to its most recent notification, Genetic Signatures had 143,405,996 shares on issue, meaning that the 11,242,369 votes against the election of Dr Samaras amounted to 7.8 percent of the company, sufficient to requisition extraordinary general meetings.

Genetic Signatures was up one cent or two percent to 51.5 cents.

BLUECHIIP

Bluechiip says it has received \$931,000 from the Australian Taxation Office under the Federal Government's Research and Development Tax Incentive program.

Bluechiip said the rebated related to research and development expenditure for the year to June 30, 2023.

Bluechiip fell 0.2 cents or 9.1 percent to two cents.

[INCANNEX HEALTHCARE](#)

The ASX says that Incannex has been removed from the Official List to redomicile on the Nasdaq.

Earlier this month, Incannex voted more than 99 percent to redomicile to the US and list its shares on the Nasdaq (BD: Nov 8, 2023).

Incannex last traded at 4.1 cents.

[RESPIRI](#)

Respiri has requested a trading halt pending an announcement “regarding a capital raising and placement of shares”.

Trading will resume on December 1, 2023 or on an earlier announcement.

Respiri last traded at 3.1 cents.

[BIOCURATE](#)

Biocurate says it has appointed Dr Kathy Nielsen as its chief executive officer, replacing interim chief executive officer Henry Jones, effective today.

In March, Biocurate said chief executive officer Dr Damien Bates had resigned from the Victoria Government-supported University of Melbourne and Monash University venture chaired by former Treasurer and Premier John Brumby (BD: Mar 8, 2023).

Today, the company said Dr Nielsen had more than 25 years of experience in senior leadership and advisory roles, having led the Monash Innovation commercialization team where she brokered deals with pharmaceutical companies and developed more than 25 spin-offs for therapeutics.

Biocurate said Dr Nielsen previously was a senior investment manager at Queensland Investment Corporation and had worked at the University of Queensland and spin-offs Elacor Pty Ltd, Nanomics Biosystems and Xenome Ltd, as well as being the director of research and advocacy at Ovarian Cancer Australia.

According to her LinkedIn page, Dr Nielsen held a Bachelor of Medicinal Pharmacy and a Doctorate of Philosophy from Monash University, as well as a Masters of Intellectual Property Law from the University of Melbourne.