



# Biotech Daily

Monday April 7, 2025

*Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies*

- \* **ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: ATOMO UP 12.5%;**  
- **CURVEBEAM, MEDADVISOR DOWN 16%**
- \* **TELIX EXPECTS 'NO MATERIAL IMPACT' FROM US TARIFFS**
- \* **TRUSCREEN CERVICAL CANCER TEST 'NOT IMPACTED' BY US TARIFFS**
- \* **SOMNOMED TO 'ABSORB US TARIFF COSTS'**
- \* **ALTERITY RAISES \$39m**
- \* **ATOMO \$230k HIV SELF-TEST VENDING MACHINE ORDER**
- \* **CYNATA: 'CYMERUS IMPROVES SURVIVAL, FUNCTION, IN-VITRO'**
- \* **NYRADA: 'NYR-BI03 NEURO-PROTECTIVE EFFICACY, IN RODENTS'**
- \* **FIL (FIDELITY) TAKES 9.7% OF POLYNOVO**
- \* **PROTEOMICS APPOINTS 7 CLINICAL ADVISORS**

## MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market lost 4.23 percent on Monday April 7, 2025, with the ASX200 down 324.5 points to 7,343.3 points. Just two of the Biotech Daily Top 40 companies were up, 35 fell, two traded unchanged and one was untraded. All four Big Caps were down.

Atomo was the better of the two, up 0.2 cents or 12.5 percent to 1.8 cents, with 2.3 million shares traded; followed by Avita, up 1.3 percent to \$2.42 with 502,664 shares traded.

Curvebeam led the falls, down 1.7 cents or 16.2 percent to 8.8 cents, with 1.2 million shares traded; followed by Friday's worst, Medadvisor, down 1.6 cents or 16.0 percent to 8.4 cents with 3.2 million shares traded. Dimerix lost 15.5 percent; Actinogen and Syntara were down more than 12 percent; Genetic Signatures and Impedimed were down more than 11 percent; Amplia, Medical Developments, Micro-X and Nova Eye fell 10 percent or more; Aroa, Clarity, Cynata, Percheron and Prescient shed more than nine percent; Mesoblast, Neuren and Paradigm were down more than eight percent; EBR, Immutep, Imugene and Polynovo lost more than seven percent; Compumedics, Emvision and Pro Medicus were down more than six percent; Cyclopharm, Resonance and Starpharma fell more than five percent; CSL and Orthocell were down more than four percent; Clinuvel, Nanosonics and Proteomics were down three percent or more; Alcidion, Cochlear and Telix shed two percent or more; with Resmed and Universal Biosensors down by more than one percent.

## TELIX PHARMACEUTICALS

Telix says “it does not expect any material impact on its business or supply chain as the result of the international trade tariffs levied by the US government”.

Last week, the US White House said President Donald Trump would use emergency powers to impose a baseline 10 percent tariff on all countries and higher tariffs on the countries with which the US had the largest trade deficits (BD: Apr 3, 2025).

Today, Telix said that it had an “extensive US-based manufacturing and distribution infrastructure, including third-party manufacturing sites and radio-pharmaceutical partner networks, for the production and delivery of its [US Food and Drug Administration]-approved products Illuccix and Gozellix”.

The company said the majority of its workforce was based in the US and that pharmaceutical products were “currently exempt from the reciprocal tariffs”.

While Mr Trump has described the tariffs as “reciprocal” and Australian Government spokesperson told Biotech Daily that the Australian Government did not levy any tariffs against the US, meaning they were not “reciprocal” (BD: Apr 4, 2025).

Telix said that “due to the ‘just-in-time’ nature of radiopharmaceutical products [they were] generally manufactured or radio-labelled in close proximity to the point-of-care.

” “This will continue to be the case for new products that the company expects to launch in 2025,” the company said.

Telix said it did “not rely on rare earth elements of the same kind utilized in semi-conductor supply chains to create its products and is therefore not impacted by the export controls imposed by the Chinese government”.

The company said it acknowledged “reports of significant change at the FDA”.

Last month, the US Department of Health and Human Services said it would cut “about 10,000 full-time employees” from all agencies, including the FDA (BD: Mar 28, 2025).

Telix said that “despite this, the agency continues to process applications and information requests”.

The company said it had “not been notified of any changes to the timelines for its new drug application for Pixclara (TLX101-CDx) or biologics licence application for Zircaix (TLX250-CDx)”.

Telix fell 48 cents or two percent to \$23.15 with 5.5 million shares traded.

## TRUSCREEN GROUP (FORMERLY POLARTECHNICS)

Truscreen says its cervical cancer test “is not impacted by changes to the US and China proposed tariff regimes” as it was not distributed in the US (see above).

Truscreen said it had “pursued an emerging markets strategy” in countries such as India, Indonesia, Mexico, Vietnam, Uzbekistan, Zimbabwe and “especially China”, with the US “currently not a distribution territory or strategic focus”.

The company said that China had proposed a 34 percent tariff on US-made products, that would strengthen Truscreen’s competitive advantage over imported US manufactured cytology, or pap smear, and human papillomavirus DNA products.

In 2008, the then Polartechonics said that it began producing the Truscreen device in China, with production increasing until quality issues arose (BD: Aug 14, 2008).

Later, the company said it had re-commenced the delivery of the device to China and India (BD: Dec 10, 2008).

Today, Truscreen said it manufactured both an Australian and a Chinese-made device, which de-risked “government policy changes in the key China market, where there is a preferential purchasing policy for China-manufactured products”.

Truscreen fell 0.2 cents or 7.7 percent to 2.4 cents.

### SOMNOMED

Somnomed says it will continue “plans to absorb the costs associated with the tariff changes” announced imposed by the US Government, last week (BD: Apr 3, 4, 2025). Somnomed said it had “conducted a preliminary assessment of the potential impact of these new tariffs on goods imported into the US, noting the Philippines is the primary manufacturing location” for its sleep-related breathing disorders and obstructive sleep apnoea products.

The company said given “the uncertain and evolving impact of the US tariff policies it would continue to evaluate how these tariffs affect our operations and adjust our response accordingly”.

Somnomed said its expected revenue guidance for the year to June 30, 2025 to be unchanged at about \$105 million, with earnings before interest, taxation, depreciation and amortization (Ebitda) of between \$7 million and \$9 million.

Somnomed fell 10 cents or 18.9 percent to 43 cents.

### ALTERITY THERAPEUTICS

Alterity says its placement has raised \$38.79 million, with participation from its chief executive officer, chief financial officer “and the majority of the board of directors”.

In February, Alterity said it expected to raise \$40.0 million in a placement at 1.1 cents a share, with one attaching option for every three shares acquired, exercisable at 2.8 cents by February 26, 2027 (BD: Feb 10, 2025).

At that time, the company said the funds would be used for clinical development of ATH434, including planned advancements in multiple system atrophy, research efforts in neuro-degenerative diseases, including Parkinson’s disease, and working capital.

On March 30, 2025, Alterity’s market capitalization was \$60 million.

Alterity fell 0.1 cents or 12.5 percent to 0.7 cents with 50.2 million shares traded.

### ATOMO DIAGNOSTICS

Atomo says Melbourne’s Thorne Harbour Health has ordered \$230,000 of its HIV self-tests for vending machines in Victoria and South Australia.

Last year, Atomo said the Budget provided \$43.9 million in funding for HIV prevention, testing, workforce training and information, and the Federal Government was committed to “eliminating HIV transmission by 2030” (BD: May 15, 2024).

Later, the company said it expected revenue of \$1.3 million from orders of its HIV self-tests made by the Federally-funded National HIV self-test mail-out program in the next two years (BD: Jun 12, 2024).

Today, Atomo said the order was “in addition to and separate from the ‘Mytest’ vending machine rollout now underway with the [New South Wales] Ministry of Health”.

The company said its test had been registered for import into New Zealand, with commercialization beginning this week at pharmacy chain Chemist Warehouse.

Atomo managing-director John Kelly said the company was “excited about the growing adoption of HIV self-testing as critical to the Government’s efforts fight against HIV and look forward to continuing to work with [Thorne Harbour Health] and others to ensure that tests are readily available in the community where needed”.

“We are also pleased to be able to expand our supply of the Atomo HIV self-test into the New Zealand market and we continue to look for international markets where we can secure meaningful pharmacy retail channel access for our HIV product,” Mr Kelly said.

Atomo was up 0.2 cents or 12.5 percent to 1.8 cents with 2.3 million shares traded.

## CYNATA THERAPEUTICS

Cynata says its Cymerus mesenchymal stem cells showed “improved survival and function compared to controls treated with placebo”, in-vitro.

Cynata said studies of Cymerus induced pluripotent stem cells in a human heart tissue model and a rat heart attack model showed it “significantly improved heart function” and led to a “reduction in harmful structural changes in the heart” compared to placebo.

The company said the rat model resulted in “less heart muscle thickening, smaller scar tissue and fewer fibrous tissue buildups”.

Cynata said the cells produced “proteins to support tissue health, aid in healing, help to protect cells from damage, play a role in regulating the immune system and reduce inflammation”.

The company said Cymerus cells were alive and functional 12 weeks after implantation.

Cynata said the project was undertaken using a \$1.0 million Federal Government Medical Research Future Fund grant and said it had submitted a paper describing the study to a “leading peer-reviewed journal”.

Cynata managing-director Dr Kilian Kelly said the results built “on previous pre-clinical studies conducted with Cymerus [mesenchymal stem cells], which also showed beneficial effects of the cells in models of heart disease”.

“The novel delivery method utilized in this study may have important advantages with respect to clinical translation and longer-term effects,” Dr Kelly said.

Cynata fell 1.5 cents or 9.1 percent to 15 cents with one million shares traded.

## NYRADA

Nyrada says NYR-BI03 shows a “statistically significant level of neuroprotection” for models of penetrating traumatic brain injury ( $p = 0.043$ ) in rodents.

Nyrada said the study with the US Walter Reed Army Institute of Research and Sydney’s University of New South Wales included 28 test animals and was designed to “replicate the severe head injuries commonly sustained by military personnel”.

Last month, the company said it had ethics approval for the double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled trial studying the safety of NYR-BI03 in healthy volunteers, with dosing expected “by the end of March 2025” (BD: Feb 7, 2025).

Today, Nyrada chief executive officer James Bonnar said traumatic brain injury was “a significant health issue in both civilian and military settings with no current drug treatment available”.

“These latest findings for NYR-BI03 neuroprotection in [traumatic brain injury] build upon the earlier efficacy shown in a stroke model,” Mr Bonnar said.

Nyrada was up 0.45 cents or 4.8 percent to 9.8 cents.

## POLYNOVO

FIL Limited (Fidelity Asset Management) says it has increased its shareholding in Polynovo from 59,632,421 shares (8.63%) to 66,637,700 shares (9.65%).

The Sydney and Hong Kong-based FIL said that between March 21 and April 4, 2025 it bought shares at prices ranging from \$1.1047 a share to \$1.2761 a share.

Polynovo fell 7.5 cents or 7.1 percent to 97.5 cents with 4.8 million shares traded.

## PROTEOMICS INTERNATIONAL LABORATORIES

Proteomics says it has appointed seven clinicians and researchers to its clinical advisory board to support its Promarker Eso oesophageal cancer research.

Proteomics said the appointed members were Gloucestershire Hospital's Prof Hugh Barr, Amsterdam University Medical Center's Prof Jacques Bergman, the University of Michigan's Prof Andrew Chang, the Mayo Clinic's Prof Prasad Iyer, the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center's Dr Daniela Molena, Tufts University Medical School's Prof Robert Odze and Royal Perth Hospital's Prof Krish Ragunath.

The company said the advisors would "provide strategic guidance and clinical insights to support the impending global commercialization of Promarker Eso".

Proteomics managing-director Dr Richard Lipscombe said the company was "honored to welcome such an esteemed group of professionals to our clinical advisory board".

"Their expertise and clinical insights will be invaluable as we introduce Promarkereso to global markets and strive to make a meaningful impact on the lives of people living with chronic acid reflux," Dr Lipscombe said.

Proteomics fell 1.5 cents or 3.6 percent to 40.5 cents.