



Biotech Daily

Wednesday May 14, 2025

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX UP, BIOTECH DOWN: OPTISCAN UP 9%; POLYNOVO DOWN 10%**
- * **COMPUMEDICS MEG SCANS CHILDREN, ADULTS**
- * **MICROBA 'METAXPLORE HELPS TREATMENT'**
- * **AUSTCO \$2.1m TORONTO WESTERN TACERA CONTRACT**
- * **LUMOS \$195k IMEDICAL FEBRIDX PURCHASE**
- * **AND HEALTH SELECTS 15 ACTIVATE ACCELERATOR COMPANIES**
- * **GENETIC TECHNOLOGIES EGM BACKS BENELONG DOCA; ALL CHANGE**
- * **IMRICOR AGM 27% OPPOSE M-D OPTIONS**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.13 percent on Wednesday May 14, 2025, with the ASX200 up 10.6 points to 8,279.6 points.

Twelve of the Biotech Daily Top 40 companies were up, 21 fell, six traded unchanged and one was untraded. The four Big Caps were mixed.

Optiscan was the best, up one cent or 8.7 percent to 12.5 cents, with 486,776 shares traded.

Neuren and Paradigm climbed six percent or more; Amplia was up 5.8 percent; Actinogen and Prescient were up four percent or more; Compumedics was up 3.3 percent; Cynata rose 2.6 percent; Botanix, Pro Medicus and Syntara were up more than one percent; with Orthocell, Resmed and Telix up by less than one percent.

Polynovo led the falls, down 16 cents or 9.6 percent to \$1.51, with 7.3 million shares traded; followed by Micro-X, down 0.6 cents or 9.4 percent to 5.8 cents, with 161,700 shares traded.

Impedimed and Nova Eye lost eight percent or more; Cyclopharm was down 6.85 percent; Avita, EBR and Nanosonics fell more than four percent; Alcidion, Emvision, Immutep, Medadvisor and Medical Developments were down three percent or more; Aroa, Clarity, Clinuvel and Mesoblast shed more than two percent; Cochlear was down 1.5 percent; with CSL, Dimerix, Genetic Signatures, SDI and Starpharma down by less than one percent.

COMPUMEDICS

Compumedics says its Neuroscan Lifespan Orion magneto-encephalography (MEG) system has recorded brain activity scans in both children and adults for the first time.

Compumedics said the recordings of both children and adults with the same system were performed at the world's "most advanced" MEG laboratory at China's Tianjin Normal University in collaboration with Beijing Fistar.

Last year, the company said it had installed its Orion Lifespan MEG system for mapping brain activity for use in neuro-scientific research at China's Tianjin Normal University for \$4.2 million (BD: Jan 12, 2022; Nov 28, 2024).

Compumedics said it was the "first time a single magneto-encephalography system has delivered high quality scans from both children and adults".

The company said a four-year-old female was presented with a series of 200 tones in one ear during an MEG recording in the paediatric helmet and, after a break, the measurement was repeated in the adult helmet.

Compumedics said the results were averaged and showed "a significantly better [signal to noise ratio] in the recording performed in the paediatric helmet".

The company said that localization of the resulting data showing "more precise determination of where the brain had been activated by the tones".

Compumedics said that manufacturers produced MEG systems with a specialized paediatric helmet, which required a second system to be installed and therefore twice the cost and space requirements, as well as a potential drop off in accuracy due to the sensor being further away from the child's head.

The company said it had designed its system's "dual sensing helmets" to address those problems.

Compumedics said the helmets were able to rotate and fit within a standard-sized magnetically shielded room, as well as the system potentially able to be installed with a bed at each end to allow for the scanning of two subjects.

The company said that the system used its patented sensors based on "double relaxation oscillation superconducting quantum interference devices", or Dros Squids, giving it "superior characteristics compared with conventional MEG sensors".

Compumedics said its system included two-helmet configuration was able to measure two subjects at the same time, "sensors-in-vacuum" cooling system for more sensitive measurements and a virtual coolant recycling system for continuous operation.

The company said that the dual-helmet configuration enabled "accurate measurements from both adult and paediatric populations, along with hyper-scanning [or] measurement of two subjects at the same time".

Compumedics said the system included a "sensors-in-vacuum cooling system for more sensitive measurements and a virtual 100 percent coolant recycling system for continuous operation with no refilling of liquid helium, allowing for [continuous] operation".

Compumedics executive chair Dr David Burton said the recordings were "the first time a single MEG system had delivered high-quality scans for both children and adult".

"Compumedics has invested nearly a decade and many millions of dollars to develop the Orion Lifespan MEG," Dr Burton said.

"The system represents a major leap in magneto-encephalography, with dual-helmet capability for paediatric and adult brain scanning, fully integrated with our gold-standard brain analytics Curry software," Dr Burton said.

"It's incredibly rewarding to see these efforts translating into strong initial sales, global interest and the potential for improved brain health, among both children and adults worldwide," Dr Burton said.

Compumedics was up one cent or 3.3 percent to 31 cents.

MICROBA LIFE SCIENCES

Microba says preliminary analysis of 4,616 Metaxplore GI Plus gastro-intestinal test results show 3,295 results (71.4%) could help clinicians identify targeted treatments. Microba said Metaxplore tested symptoms including chronic pain, bloating, constipation and diarrhoea for the assessment and management of lower gastro-intestinal disorders. The company said the study showed that "Metaxplore can support clinicians to identify and address underlying gut issues that often go undetected by conventional testing". Microba said that in more than "70 percent of cases, the test revealed findings, such as abnormalities in gut bacteria, signs of infection, markers of inflammation or insufficiency that could inform targeted treatment strategies".

Microba said 1,932 test results (41.9%) showed abnormal microbiome markers linked to gastro-intestinal health, including seven percent that were positive for a pathogen species that could cause gastro-intestinal infection.

The company said abnormal microbiome markers could be treated by targeted nutritional or lifestyle changes, or antibiotics when a pathogen was identified.

Microba said 459 reports (9.9%) tested positive for a gastro-intestinal marker, suggesting further diagnosis and management of conditions such as inflammatory bowel disease, colorectal cancer or pancreatic insufficiency with "pharmacological treatment" including biologic drugs derived from living organisms.

The company said 904 results (19.6%) were positive for multiple markers, which could be addressed with a "mix of pharmacological, nutritional and lifestyle modification strategies".

Microba said in cases where no significant findings were identified, the results could "help clinicians to rule out potential causes of gastro-intestinal symptoms and may suggest psychological or neurological contributors to symptoms".

The company said that a separate 84-patient follow-up survey study showed that 55 patients reported "health improvements after following clinician's recommendations".

Microba said 19 patients reported "significant improvement and 36 patients, reported "some improvement".

Microba fell two cents or 11.4 percent to 15.5 cents.

AUSTCO HEALTHCARE

Austco says it has a \$2.1 million contract with Ontario, Canada's Toronto Western Hospital for its Tacera nurse call platform.

Austco said its Tacera nurse call and clinical communication system would be installed at a patient and surgical tower at Toronto Western Hospital, which was a part of Toronto, Ontario's University Health Network.

The company said its Tacera platform would "integrate with third-party, real-time location systems ... to connect with hospital information systems".

Austco said the system would "interface with the building management system ... allowing for intelligent control of lighting and [heating, ventilation and air conditioning] systems throughout the facility".

The company said the project was part of a \$1 billion investment by the province of Ontario and was expected to be completed in late 2028.

Austco said its products would deliver "real-time clinical communication, enhancing patient safety and sophisticated integrations with hospital systems".

Austco managing-director Clayton Astles said "securing this contract with one of Canada's most prestigious healthcare networks reinforces Austco's position as a leader in delivering innovative, scalable solutions for complex hospital environments".

Austco was up 1.8 cents or 6.4 percent to 30 cents.

LUMOS DIAGNOSTICS HOLDINGS

Lumos says Imedical Inc has bought the largest order of Febridx blood tests to differentiate bacterial from viral respiratory infections, worth \$US126,000 (\$A194,729). In 2023, Lumos said it had US Food and Drug Administration clearance to market and sell its Febridx point-of-care, finger-prick blood test (BD: Jul 11, 2022; Jul 3, 2023).

Today, the company said the Kansas City, Missouri-based Imedical developed and delivered “cost-savings solutions tailored for hospitals, surgery centres, clinics and healthcare facilities” in the US.

Lumos said Imedical reduced its customer’s “operating expenses with high value services and products, like Febridx”.

The company said Febridx was “cleared for use by healthcare professionals with patients presenting in urgent care or emergency care settings and is intended to be used in conjunction with clinical signs and symptoms, including other clinical and laboratory findings, to evaluate patients for acute respiratory infection”.

Lumos managing-director Doug Ward said he was “pleased to see Febridx gaining traction and acceptance in the market”.

“It’s a testament to the product’s clinical value and growing demand,” Mr Ward said.

“Lumos looks forward to working more closely with Imedical to expand Febridx’s market acceptance and adoption,” Mr Ward said.

Lumos was up 0.2 cents or 7.7 percent to 2.8 cents with 1.5 million shares traded.

AND HEALTH (AUSTRALIA’S NATIONAL DIGITAL HEALTH INITIATIVE)

AND Health says it has selected 15 digital health companies for its ‘Activate’ six-month accelerator program to support commercialization.

AND Health said the program would “identify, support and scale Victorian digital and digitally-enabled medical technology companies with significant growth potential”, including artificial intelligence (A.I.)-based products or services.

The organization said the program supported Victoria’s “broader goal of fostering a dynamic and diverse start-up industry, with a strong focus on supporting women-led ventures and delivering measurable sector impact”.

AND Health said the Victoria Government’s Launchvic had recently extended funding for the program until the end of 2028, but did not disclose the funding received.

The organization said the companies would “receive tailored support and mentorship designed to result in a compelling business and investment case”.

AND Health chief executive officer Bronwyn Le Grice said “the strength and diversity of this year’s ‘Activate’ cohort is a testament to the incredible entrepreneurial talent emerging across Victoria”.

“Sustained investment in programs like ‘Activate’ is critical to ensuring Victoria remains a global leader in digital and connected health innovation, and we look forward to seeing the impact this cohort will have on the future of healthcare,” Ms Le Grice said.

“Two years ago, only 14 percent of Australian digital health companies listed artificial intelligence (A.I.) as their main technology, now that figure is up to 22 percent and is the most commonly cited technology,” Ms Le Grice said.

“We can see that trend continuing with more than half of this cohort developing A.I.-based solutions,” Ms Le Grice said.

“It shows the extraordinary potential of A.I.-driven health technologies to address some of Victoria’s most pressing health system challenges but also to set new global benchmarks for impact and scalability,” Ms Le Grice said.

AND Health said a list of the 15 companies was available at: <https://bit.ly/4j6SDT4>.

GENETIC TECHNOLOGIES

Genetic Technologies says its extraordinary general meeting has voted to approve the deed of company arrangement from Sydney's Benelong Capital Partners Pty Ltd.

Last year, FTI Consulting said Ross Blakeley and Paul Harlond were appointed voluntary administrators of Genetic Technologies (BD: Nov 20, Dec 16, 2024; Feb 5, 2025).

In March, the administrators said Genetic Technologies' investors would vote on Walker acquiring 88 percent of company, Benelong acquiring two percent, appointing Walker Capital founder Michael Walker, John Polinelli and Anthony Hartman as directors and a one-for-10 share consolidation (BD: Mar 3, 2025).

Today, the administrators said 4,875,355 votes (99.95%) supported the five resolutions, with 2,600 votes (0.05%) against.

Separately, Genetic Technologies said that following the passing of all resolutions at the meeting, chair Peter Rubinstein and directors Dr Lindsay Wakefield and Dr Jerzy Muchnicki had resigned, effective immediately.

The company said Mr Walker, Mr Hartman and Mr Polinelli had been appointed non-executive directors, effective from today.

Genetic Technologies was in a suspension and last traded at 3.9 cents.

IMRICOR MEDICAL SYSTEMS

Imricor says its annual general meeting has passed all resolutions with up-to 26.99 percent against the issue of options to managing-director Steven Wedan.

Last month, Imricor said investors would vote to issue 455,893 options to Mr Wedan under its equity incentive plan, and if approved, a further 500,000 options to Mr Wedan "as a special one-off grant".

At that time, the company said the meeting would vote to issue \$US117,500 (\$A181,380) worth of restricted stock to directors Peter McGregor, Anita Messal and Mark Tibbles.

Today, Imricor said Mr Wedan's "special one-off" options were opposed by 26,732,834 votes (26.99%) and supported by 72,309,470 votes (73.01%), with the incentive plan options opposed by 5,281,658 votes (5.33%) and supported by 93,820,646 votes (94.67%).

The company said the grant of restricted stock options to directors, the approval of the equity incentive plan, the ratification of placement shares, appointment of its accounting firm and election of two directors were all passed more easily.

According to its most recent notice, Imricor had 320,325,092 Chess depository interests on issue, meaning that the votes against Mr Wedan's "special one-off" options amounted to 8.34 percent of the company, sufficient to call extraordinary general meetings.

Imricor was up five cents or 3.1 percent to \$1.66.