Biotech Daily

Thursday August 14, 2025

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

*** ASX, BIOTECH UP: CYCLOPHARM UP 8%; STARPHARMA DOWN 14%**

*** PRO MEDICUS REVENUE UP 32% TO $213m; PROFIT UP 39% TO $115m**

*** TETRATHERIX: FEDERAL $3.3m FOR BIO-MATERIALS**

*** GRIFFITH UNI PHASE I NASAL CELL SPINAL CORD TRIAL**

*** BRANDON: MIRUGEN $4.5m FOR EYE DISEASE CELL THERAPY**

*** LUMOS, PRO-SPECTUS US FEBRIDX MARKETING PARTNER**

*** TRUSCREEN: UZBEKISTAN, INDIA CERVICAL CANCER PROGRAMS**

*** ARGENICA: 'FDA WANTS MORE ARG-007 DATA TO LIFT CLINICAL HOLD'**

*** RHYTHM REQUESTS 'CAPITAL RAISE' TRADING HALT**

*** NYRADA TELLS ASX 'TRIAL UPDATE MATERIAL, ANNOUNCED WHEN AWARE'**

*** ANZ BANK TAKES 16.6% OF PACIFIC EDGE**

*** MASFEN TAKES 8% OF PACIFIC EDGE**

*** PLATINUM DILUTED TO 6.8% OF ADALTA**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.53 percent on Thursday August 14, 2025, with the ASX200 up 46.7 points to 8,873.8 points. Seventeen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 companies were up, 15 fell and eight traded unchanged.

Cyclopharm was the best, up eight cents or 8.4 percent to $1.03, with 61,068 shares traded; followed by 4D Medical, up four cents or 8.2 percent to 53 cents, with six million shares traded. Micro-X, Nova Eye and Pro Medicus were up more than six percent; Cynata climbed 5.1 percent; Mesoblast, Prescient and Universal Biosensors were up more than four percent; Imugene improved 3.5 percent; Amplia, Avita, Immutep and Polynovo rose two percent or more; Nanosonics and Orthocell were up more than one percent; with Clarity, CSL, Resmed and SDI up by less than one percent.

Yesterday's 26.1 percent best, Starpharma, led the falls, down two cents or 13.8 percent to 12.5 cents, with 418,887 shares traded. Botanix lost 6.45 percent; Neuren was down five percent; Alcidion and Impedimed fell more than four percent; Dimerix and EBR were down more than three percent; Cochlear, Medical Developments, Optiscan, Proteomics and Resonance shed more than two percent; Clinuvel and Compumedics were down one percent or more; with Aroa and Telix down by less than one percent.

PRO MEDICUS

Pro Medicus says record revenue for the year to June 30, 2025 was up 31.9 percent to $212,980,000, with record net profit after tax up 39.2 percent to $115,217,000.
Pro Medicus said revenue was from sales and contracts of its Visage 7 suite of picture archive communication systems, radiology and medical imaging software.
The company said that its “minimum contracted revenue over the next five years increased to $938,000,000”, with seven contracts won in North America during the year, two existing client contracts renewed and two customers expanding contracts to include additional products, as well as transitioning to a fully internet cloud-based model.
Pro Medicus said that its total headcount had increased 10.9 percent from 119 employees to 132 employees, with employee benefits expenses up 19.4 percent to $36,278,000.
The company said that North America revenue rose 35.8 percent compared to the prior year “largely attributable to increases in transaction-based revenue from existing customers and sales of Visage technology as more contracts came on stream”.
Pro Medicus said European sales increased 8.6 percent “due to favorable currency translation effects”, with Australian revenue up 4.9 percent from “the renewal of a large contract … coupled with strong transaction volumes”.
Pro Medicus managing-director Dr Sam Hupert said “it was another very strong year of profitable growth, coupled with our biggest year of sales on record”.
“I think it's fair to say that by any metric this has been by far the strongest year on record for the company and importantly, one that sets us up for 2025-’26 and beyond,” Dr Hupert said.
Dr Hupert said Pro Medicus had about 10 percent of the total addressable market in North America, and the aim was “to get as big a percentage market share as possible”.
The company said a fully-franked dividend of 30.0 cents a share would be paid on September 25 to shareholders at the record date of September 4, 2025, compared to a fully-franked dividend of 22.0 cents in the prior year.
Pro Medicus said diluted earnings per share rose 39.2 percent to $1.101, with net tangible assets per security up 40.4 percent to $2.26.
The company said it had cash and cash equivalents of $107,487,000 at June 30, 2025 compared to $60,062,000 at June 30, 2024.
Pro Medicus was up $18.54 or 6.2 percent to $315.69 with 450,913 shares traded.

TETRATHERIX

Tetratherix says it has a $3,322,754, Federal Government Industry Growth Program grant to co-fund the manufacturing and development of its clinical bio-materials.
Earlier this year, Tetratherix opened up 15.3 percent at $3.32 following its $25 million initial public offer at $2.88 a share to list on the ASX and develop its polymer Tetramatrix technology, with a market capitalization of $145 million (BD: Jun 30, 2025).
Previously, the company said Tetramatrix was “the world’s first bio-stealth fluid matrix and is being used to develop clinical products applicable across numerous areas including bone regeneration, tissue spacing and tissue healing” (BD: Jun 6, 2025).
Today, Tetratherix said the manufacturing expansion and development project would cost $7,383,897, with the company to contribute the remaining $4,061,143.
The company said it was “helping to reposition Australia as an active builder of commercial medical technologies”.
Tetratherix said “from polymer synthesis to clinical trials, the company is designing and executing the full translational arc in Australia”.
Tetratherix was up four cents or one percent to $4.19.

GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

Gold Coast's Griffith University says it will conduct a 30-patient, phase I trial of nasal, or olfactory ensheathing, cell transplant for chronic spinal cord injury.

Griffith University said 20 patients would be randomly allocated to the treatment group and receive nasal cell transplantation and long-term rehabilitation, with 10 patients to be allocated to the control group and receive only rehabilitation.

The University said the trial was funded by the Federal Government's Medical Research Future Fund, Perry Cross Spinal Research Foundation, the Clem Jones Foundation, the Queensland Government, Nicola and Dr Andrew Forrest, Brazil Family Foundation, Terry and Rhonda White as well as the University.

Griffith University said that Perry Cross Spinal Research Foundation founder Perry Cross became a ventilated quadriplegic at age 19 from a rugby accident and had dedicated his life to advocating for a cure.

The University said the trial was the "first of its kind in the world" and would study the safety and efficacy of transplanted nasal cells to treat chronic spinal cord injury.

Griffith University said the olfactory ensheathing cells were specialized cells involved in our sense of smell and had "numerous therapeutic properties for repairing and regenerating nerves".

The University said the trial would be conducted at the Gold Coast University Hospital and followed preclinical research showing olfactory nerve bridges were effective in repairing spinal cord injury in animal models.

Griffith University said recruitment was open today, with the first patient expected to be enrolled in September and the trial to take up-to three years, followed by results.

Griffith University lead researcher Prof James St John said once the cells had "been removed from the patient's nose, they are then used to create an innovative nerve bridge which is about the size of a very small worm".

"The nerve bridge is then implanted into the spine at the site of the injury, offering what we think is the best hope for treating spinal cord injury," Prof St John said. "To help stimulate regeneration, patients will undergo intensive rehabilitation for three months prior to the transplantation and then for eight months after the transplantation."

"While primary assessments are to ensure the therapy is safe, we will also be measuring numerous aspects to assess if there are changes in functional outcomes that are important to people living with spinal cord injury," Prof St John said.

"The ability to regain some sense of function, whether it's regaining independent function of their bladder or bowel, regaining movement in their fingers, or the ability to stand and hug a loved one again can improve quality of life," Prof St John said.

"Regaining some form of independence can open the world up to people living with a chronic acquired spinal injury," Prof St John said.

"To have a cell transplantation therapy progressing to clinical trial after only eight years is testament to the benefits of the strategic translational research program the team has used," Prof St John said.

Mr Cross said the trial was "a long-awaited breakthrough that speaks to the enduring strength of those impacted by spinal cord injury and the extraordinary belief of those who support us".

"For too long, individuals living with paralysis have been told that recovery lies beyond the horizon of possibility," Mr Cross said. "Today, we challenge that notion with evidence, ambition and above all, hope," Mr Cross said.

"For someone like me, who knows all too well the permanence of spinal cord injury, this trial offers not just the possibility of improved function, but a renewed sense of independence and dignity; qualities that define the human experience," Mr Cross said.

BRANDON CAPITAL, MIRUGEN PTY LTD

Brandon Capital says Melbourne's Mirugen has raised $4.5 million in seed funding to develop its cell re-programming for the eye disease retinitis pigmentosa.

A media release from Brandon said Mirugen was a spin-out of Melbourne's Centre for Eye Research Australia, located at the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital, and had a discovery platform that used "sequencing data, bioinformatics, and high-throughput screening to identify the optimal set of cellular instructions, 'transcription factors', to ask one cell type to become another".

Brandon said the company was co-founded by chief scientific officer Prof Raymond Wong and medical director Prof Keith Martin, with former Yarvie partner and Theolytics founding chief executive officer Charlotte Casebourne Stock appointed executive chair.

The company said Mirugen had raised $7.1 million to date, with the seed funding invested by Brandon, Tin Alley Ventures and the University of Melbourne Genesis Pre-Seed Fund.

Mirugen co-founder and medical director Prof Keith Martin said "for the 1.5 million individuals worldwide affected by retinitis pigmentosa, severe depletion of the light-sensing cells in the eye, the photo-receptors, is the cause of progressive visual loss".

"With Mirugen's lead candidate, we target nascent stem cells in the eye, called Muller glial cells, to replace and regenerate the lost photoreceptors," Prof Martin said.

"If successful, we anticipate this approach will also translate to some of the leading causes of blindness worldwide, including age-related macular degeneration and Stargardt's disease," Prof Martin said.

Mirugen is a private company.

LUMOS DIAGNOSTICS HOLDINGS

Lumos says the Los Angeles-based Pro-spectus will support marketing, access and reimbursement of its Febridx test in the US, initially until December 2026.

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 to differentiate bacterial from viral respiratory infections (BD: Jul 11, 2022; Jul 3, 2023).

Last year, the company said the US Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services would reimburse Febridx at $US41.38 ($A63.80) a test (BD: Dec 5, 2024).

Today, the company said with reimbursement for Febridx through US Medicare, it would focus on securing coverage for US private insurance payors to broaden patient access.

Lumos said Pro-spectus would "provide a comprehensive suite of strategic and operational services designed to help accelerate patient access to Febridx by supporting healthcare providers in securing appropriate reimbursement".

The company said the deal would deliver "market access consulting services ... reimbursement helpline team [and] … access and reimbursement manager services".

Lumos said the services would be integrated with its "field sales efforts to ensure healthcare providers receive the necessary tools, education, and hands-on support to adopt Febridx and to secure reliable reimbursement from insurers for its use".

Lumos managing-director Doug Ward said the partnership was "an important step in accelerating the commercial adoption of Febridx in the US market".

"By combining our clinically proven diagnostic technology with Pro-spectus' market access expertise, we can better equip healthcare providers to secure reimbursement and accelerate the adoption of Febridx," Mr Ward said.

"Ultimately, this means reducing unnecessary antibiotic use, improving patient outcomes, and helping to address the growing challenge of anti-microbial resistance," Mr Ward said.

Lumos was up 1.1 cents or 11.7 percent to 10.5 cents with 12.35 million shares traded.

TRUSCREEN GROUP

Truscreen says it will conduct a 500-patient pilot program of its cervical cancer screening device in Uzbekistan and an additional program in Northeast India.
Earlier this year, Truscreen said the Uzbekistan National Pharmaceutical Safety Committee had approved its non-invasive, electrical-optical, artificial intelligence (A.I.)-enabled cervical cancer screening system (BD: Jun 16, 2025).
Today, the company said it had a memorandum of understanding with the deputy chair of Uzbekistan's Committee for Health Science and Education to conduct the 500-patient pilot project, which would begin in September and be completed in October 2025.
Truscreen said the program was designed to assess its device for detecting early cancerous changes in the cervix for women in Uzbekistan as compared to pap smear.
The company said the pilot program would be used to develop a National Cervical Cancer Screening program for Uzbekistan.
Truscreen said its device was selected for use in a separate public screening program of 1,800 women in Leh Town, Ladakh, Jammu Kashmir, India which was organized and conducted by a volunteer gynaecological team.
Truscreen was untraded at 1.5 cents.

ARGENICA THERAPEUTICS

Argenica says the US Food and Drug Administration requires additional dose safety data and three in-vitro studies to lift the clinical hold on ARG-007 for stroke.
In an investor presentation to the ASX on May 19, 2025, Argenica said it had submitted an investigational new drug application for ARG-007 to the FDA, as well as a fast-track application and that the status would provide more frequent communication with the FDA and eligibility for accelerated approval, priority review and rolling review
Later, the company said its FDA investigational new drug application of ARG-007 for acute ischaemic stroke has been put on "clinical hold" (BD: Jun 10, 2025).
Today, Argenica said the FDA had requested additional information showing the proposed clinical trial dose could be achieved safely in humans, with the safety data from its phase II clinical trial to be used as part of its response.
The company said the FDA had requested it conduct an in-vitro study of the recently approved lysis drug Tenecteplase using human blood clots, an in-vitro study of any potential effect on potassium channels related to the heart's electrical activity and an in-vitro mammalian cell gene mutation assay study to determine genotoxicity in cells.
Argenica said it was required to include more detail on the phase I data in the investigational brochure, which was "a simple update" to be implemented immediately.
Argenica managing-director Dr Liz Dallimore said "from a timing and cost perspective, the requested additional in-vitro assays are standard assays which are straightforward and efficient to perform".
"Further, the important safety data results from the current phase II clinical trial will soon be available in September to support our submission," Dr Dallimore said.
Argenica fell 2.5 cents or 3.55 percent to 68 cents.

RHYTHM BIOSCIENCES

Rhythm has requested a trading halt "pending an announcement by the company in relation to a capital raise".
Trading will resume on August 18, 2025, or on an earlier announcement.
Rhythm last traded at 10.5 cents.

NYRADA INC

Nyrada has told the ASX that the safety review of the final cohort in its phase I trial of Xolatryp was material and it announced the information the day it became aware.
The ASX asked Nyrada whether it believed the market-sensitive announcement about its phase I clinical trial released on August 6, 2025 was material information, when it became aware of the information and if it was aware of the information prior to lodging a cleansing notice on August 4, 2025.
Nyrada said it believed the information was material and that it was made aware of the relevant information by its safety review committee at 9.18am on August 6, 2025, before announcing it at 9.38am the same day.
The company said it had previously released price sensitive announcements on July 21 and 23, 2025 that cohort six of the phase I trial had been dosed and discharged with no visible issues and “no adverse safety signals reported”.
Nyrada was unchanged at 30 cents.

PACIFIC EDGE

Australia and New Zealand (ANZ) Bank says it has increased its shareholding in Pacific Edge from 120,370,472 shares (14.837%) to 169,562,763 shares (16.599%).
The Auckland, New Zealand-based ANZ said that it bought and sold shares between December 18, 2023 and August 13, 2025, with the single largest purchases 41,200,000 shares for $4,120,000, or 10 cents a share.
Pacific Edge fell 0.1 cents or 1.1 percent to nine cents.

PACIFIC EDGE

Auckland’s Masfen Securities says it has become a substantial shareholder in Pacific Edge with 80,295,578 shares, or 7.86 percent.
Masfen said with Pacific Edge director Anatole Masfen, Peter Masfen and Raphael Yan it acquired the shares in a placement on May 30, 2025 and through the issue of shares to a director, approved at a shareholder meeting on August 6, 2025.
Last week, Pacific Edge said it raised $NZ20.7 million ($A18.9 million) at 10 NZ cents a share (9.1 Australian cents), a 22 percent premium to the last closing price, through a $NZ16.1 million placement and $NZ4.7 million share plan (BD: Aug 4, 2025).

ADALTA

Sydney’s Platinum Investment Management Ltd says its 78,814,880 share-holding in Adalta has been diluted due to the issue of shares from 7.83 percent to 6.83 percent.
In June, Adalta said that it raised $1,090,452 of a hoped for $1,300,000 at 0.3 cents a share, a 50.8 percent discount to the 15-day volume weighted average price, in its two-for-three rights offer; and later, said it had placed $193,830 of the $209,548 shortfall to a single, unnamed investor (BD: May 1, Jun 3, 13, 2025).
Adalta was unchanged at 0.25 cents with 5.4 million shares traded.