Biotech Daily

Monday August 10, 2026

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

*** ASX DOWN, BIOTECH UP: AVITA UP 32%; SYNTARA DOWN 23%**

*** VICTORIA $2m FOR mRNA CLINICAL TRIALS**

*** AUSTCO $2.9m FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA NURSE CALL RESELLER**

*** ARCHER SHARE PLAN RAISES $953k, $2m SHORTFALL; TOTAL $7.95m**

*** ADALTA: 5 OF 10 EW-001 MESOTHELIOMA RESPONDERS**

*** RENERVE WINS INDIA NERVALIGN APPROVAL**

*** MEMPHASYS 1st MONASH IVF FELIX DATA PRESENTED**

*** DR MICHAEL BAKER TO REPLACE PERCHERON M-D DR JAMES GARNER**

*** BIO-MELBOURNE 2027 WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP LUNCH IN SEPTEMBER**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 0.33 percent on Monday August 10, 2026, with the ASX200 down 31.0 points to 9,232.6 points.

Twenty of the Biotech Daily Top 40 companies were up, 11 fell and nine traded unchanged. All four Big Caps were up.

Avita, was the best for the second trading day in a row, on its half-year results, up 49 cents or 31.8 percent to $2.03, with 4.1 million shares traded.

EBR climbed 10.9 percent; Aroa, Optiscan and Polynovo were up eight percent or more; Actinogen and Saluda rose more than seven percent; Clarity, Curvebeam, Emvision and Mesoblast were up more than five percent; 4D Medical, Cyclopharm, Imricor and Resmed rose more than four percent; Telix was up 2.7 percent; Clinuvel, Cochlear, CSL and Neuren were up more than one percent; with Nanosonics, Pro Medicus, Racura and Starpharma up by less than one percent.

Syntara led the falls, down 0.8 cents or 22.9 percent to 2.7 cents, with 10.8 million shares traded. Lumos lost 8.0 percent; both Amplia and Resonance fell 6.7 percent; Nova Eye, Prescient and Proteomics were down more than three percent; Alcidion and Imugene shed more than two percent; Medical Developments was down 1.0 percent; with Artrya down by 0.2 percent.

VICTORIA GOVERNMENT

The Victoria Government says it will provide $2 million in grants for messenger (m)RNA research in vaccines and medicines entering clinical trials.

A media release from Victoria's Minister for Medical Research, Artificial Intelligence and Digital Economy, Major Events, Racing and Economic Development Anthony Carbines said that the funding was "part of the mRNA Victoria pipeline program".

The Government said mRNA Victoria had "invested $34 million to support 65 research projects since 2021, unlocking new medicines and vaccines".

The Victoria Government said previously funded projects included "a world-first lupus clinical trial and new treatments for bone marrow failure syndrome moving closer to the clinic" and that the State hosted 30 percent of all national clinical trial sites.

For further information and applications go to: https://bit.ly/4g3oLrh.

Mr Carbines said the Government was "cementing Victoria as a global hub for medical research by backing our world-class researchers to advance the next generation of life-saving vaccines and medicines".

Burnet Institute director Prof Brendan Crabb said the Victoria mRNA research funding would help turn scientific ideas into vaccines and treatments.

AUSTCO HEALTHCARE

Austco says it will pay about $2.88 million to acquire Adelaide's Medical Communications Systems, a reseller of its nurse call software and systems.

Austco said it had a binding agreement, subject to customary conditions, to acquire 100 percent of Medical Communications Systems, a certified nurse call reseller in South Australia on a cash-free and debt-free basis.

The company said the total consideration was about $2.88 million, or 3.5 times Medical Communications Systems normalized earnings before interest, taxation, depreciation and amortization (Ebitda), including about $2.24 million in up-front cash and a performance-based cash earnout.

Austco said the payment would be funded by existing cash reserves and was subject to customary working capital and net debt adjustments.

The company said that the acquisition was expected to add about $1.88 million of net incremental revenue and about $820,000 in Ebitda on a full-year basis.

Austco said the acquisition continued its strategy of acquiring established resellers to strengthen its direct sales capability in Australia, following the acquisitions of Teknocorp, Amentco and G&S Technologies.

The company said Medical Communications Systems would operate as part of Austco's Australian operations, with key personnel expected to remain with the business.

Austco said the acquisition was expected to be immediately earnings accretive, excluding transaction costs and any integration costs.

The company said it would provide further updates on the acquisition, including its contribution, when it releases full-year results in late August 2026.

Austco managing-director Clayton Astles said Medical Communications Systems had been "a trusted Austco reseller in South Australia for many years, and bringing the business in-house is a natural next step".

"This acquisition follows the same disciplined model as our last three acquisitions, strengthening our direct sales capability, deepening our customer relationships and retaining experienced local people," Mr Astles said.

Austco was up 0.75 cents or 3.3 percent to 23.25 cents.

[ARCHER MATERIALS]
Archer says it has raised $953,000 at 27 cents a share in a share purchase plan, taking the total raised to $7,953,000 and leaving a $2,047,000 shortfall.
Last month, Archer said it had “commitments” to raise $7 million at 27 cents a share, a 13.6 percent discount to the five-day volume weighted average price, in a two-tranche placement, with a $3 million, non-underwritten share plan to follow (BD: Jul 3, 2026).
Today, the company said the funds raised would be used for its strategic agreement with Ionq, sovereign quantum computing initiatives and general working capital.
Archer said investors would receive one option for every share issued, exercisable at 35 cents each by June 30, 2029.
The company did not disclose whether it would seek to place the shortfall.
Archer fell half a cent or 2.2 percent to 22.5 cents.

[ADALTA]
Adalta says five of 10 mesothelioma patients treated with EW-001, formerly BZDS-1901, remain alive and on study, providing an overall response rate of 50 percent.
In January, Adalta said its Adcella ‘East-to-West’ strategy would develop Shanghai Cell Therapy Group’s BZDS1901 for mesothelioma outside China (BD: Jan 18, 2026).
Last week, the company said two of 10 patients (20%) reported a complete response in a China study of EW-001, formerly BZDS1901, for mesothelioma (BD: Aug 5, 2026).
Today, Adalta said three patients had achieved a partial response, or tumor shrinkage of more than 30 percent, with two patients having a complete response or no tumor detection after treatment, resulting in an overall response rate of 50 percent.
The company said three patients had survived for at least 12 months, with a further three patients alive and yet to reach one-year survival.
Adalta managing-director Dr Tim Oldham said “every one of the five patients still on study in March remains alive, and the higher the EW-001 dose, the better patients have done”.
“Combined with two patients achieving complete tumor clearance also at these higher doses, something almost never seen in advanced mesothelioma, this supports our plan to evaluate even higher doses in our Australian phase I study,” Dr Oldham said.
“For patients with advanced mesothelioma, who today have very few options, EW-001 offers real new hope” Dr Oldham said.
Adalta was up 0.1 cents or 33.3 percent to 0.4 cents with 9.7 million shares traded.

[RENERVE]
Renerve says it has India Central Drugs Standard Control Organization approval for the commercialization of its Nervalign nerve cuff for peripheral nerve repair.
Renerve said commercialization partner Netcentrix Ventures would supply its Nervalign product in India and that it been working with its partner to identify customers as the hospital approval processed.
The company said India was “one of the largest market opportunities in Renerve’s global commercialization strategy”.
Renerve managing-director Dr Julian Chick said marketing approval in India was “a landmark milestone for Renerve”.
“India is the world’s most populous country and one of the largest and fastest-growing healthcare markets globally, and the clinical need for effective peripheral nerve repair, driven by significant number of trauma cases, is enormous,” Dr Chick said.
Renerve was untraded at 7.4 cents.

MEMPHASYS

Memphasys says results from its Monash IVF Group study of Felix was presented for the first time at a conference in Canberra on August 9, 2026.

In 2022, Memphasys said that with Monash IVF Group it enrolled and treated the first of 104 couples in the study of its Felix electrophoresis device (BD: Jun 28, 2022).

Last year, the company said the Felix in-vitro fertilization trial met its primary endpoint with managing-director Dr David Ali telling Biotech Daily that Felix was not only not inferior to the swim-up technique it was statistically superior to density gradient centrifugation “the most common sperm preparation technique” ($p = 0.022$) (BD: Mar 24, 2025).

Today, the company said the presentation was titled ‘The Felix System generates significantly higher embryo utilisation rates than density gradient centrifugation and comparable rates to swim-up: A multi-centre prospective randomized sibling oocyte trial’.

Memphasys was up 0.05 cents or 8.3 percent to 0.65 cents with 4.1 million shares traded.

PERCHERON THERAPEUTICS (FORMERLY ANTISENSE THERAPEUTICS)

Percheron says Dr Michael Baker will replace Dr James Garner as managing-director and chief executive officer, effective from October 5, 2026, on $375,000 a year.

Percheron said that Dr Garner would remain in his position until August 31, 2026 “to ensure an orderly transition” and continue as a director, from September 1.

The company said Dr Baker had been Arovella’s managing-director, worked for Hexima, Bioscience Managers and Suda Pharmaceuticals and had been a director of Radiopharm.

Percheron said Dr Baker held a Master of Business Administration from Melbourne University and a Doctor of Philosophy from Melbourne’s La Trobe University.

The company said Dr Baker’s remuneration had a “reduced cash component, offset by a shareholder-aligned equity component tied to share price and tenure milestones” and he would be paid $375,000 a year, plus superannuation, receive 75,000,000 restricted stock units expiring within five years subject to share price milestones and be eligible to receive short-term and long-term incentives, subject to performance indicators and approvals.

Percheron was up 0.1 cents or 33.3 percent to 0.4 cents with 37.2 million shares traded.

BIO-MELBOURNE NETWORK

Bio-Melbourne Network says it will hold its 2027 Women in Leadership Award lunch on September 16, 2026, with nominations for the awards to open at the event.

The Network said the event would include a discussion with women leaders “as they explore what it means to create a lasting legacy and empower the next generation”.

Previously, the Network said the Victoria Government-sponsored awards honored “women who drive innovation across Victoria’s health technologies ecosystem”.

Bio-Melbourne Network said the panel of speakers would be led by Allens partner Caroline Ryan and include Phrenix Therapeutics co-founder Prof Jess Nithianantharajah, St Vincent’s Health chief research officer Prof Megan Robertson and Polynovo general counsel and company secretary Amy Demediuk.

The Network said the event would be held at Allens, 37/101 Collins Street, Melbourne on September 16, 2026 at 4pm (AEST), with attendance free and additional information available at: https://bit.ly/4xoKWyW.