Biotech Daily

Monday August 3, 2026

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

*** JULY BDI-40 DOWN 10%, ASX200 UP 2%, BIG CAPS UP 2.5%, NBI DOWN 2%**

*** TODAY: ASX, BIOTECH UP: MICRO-X UP 11.5%; EBR DOWN 9%**

*** QBIOTICS: 'TIGILANOL TIGLATE 78% HEAD, NECK CANCER RESPONSE'**

*** CERETAS UP 132% ON $8m IPO FOR ALZHEIMER'S ULTRASOUND THERAPY**

*** MICRO-X RECEIPTS UP 80% TO $5m; $8m CONVERTIBLE NOTES; CUTS**

*** MINDSPRINT CLAIMS $2.3m FROM ADHERIS**

*** RECCE: '$95.2b US BUDGET BACKS US ARMY RESEARCH'**

*** MONASH UNI, CREATE LIPID NANO-PARTICLE CAR DELIVERY RESEARCH**

*** UNI NSW SOFT SENSOR FOR HEART, BRAIN MAPPING**

*** ONTRACKA US TRIALS SOFTWARE MONITOR**

*** OSTEOPORE 1st HAINAN, CHINA ORTHOPAEDIC DEVICE USE**

*** NEURIZON TAKES $17.5m DARE RDTI LOAN**

*** BLINKLAB REQUESTS 'ADHD STUDY RESULTS' TRADING HALT**

*** AVECHO WINS JAPAN TPM-CBD PATENT**

*** MERCER TAKES 5% OF ADHERIS**

*** MICRO-X DR BRIAN GONZALES REPLACES CEO KINGSLEY HALL**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market was up 0.47 percent on Monday August 3, 2026, with the ASX200 up 42.5 points to 9,019.3 points. Nineteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 companies were up, 15 fell, five traded unchanged and one was untraded. All four Big Caps were up.

Micro-X was the best, up 0.3 cents or 11.5 percent to 2.9 cents, with 926,859 shares traded. Impedimed climbed 11.1 percent; Botanix was up 10.5 percent; 4D Medical rose 9.1 percent; Dimerix and Paradigm were up more than six percent; Atomo, Curvebeam and Lumos climbed five percent or more; Amplia, Neuren and Nova Eye were up more than three percent; Clinuvel, CSL, Nanosonics, Polynovo, Pro Medicus, Resmed and Syntara rose one percent or more; with Artrya, Cochlear, Emvision and Telix up by less than one percent.

EBR led the falls, down 2.5 cents or 8.6 percent to 26.5 cents, with 2.6 million shares traded. Cyclopharm, Medical Developments and Proteomics lost more than six percent; Actinogen, Orthocell and Saluda were down more than three percent; Aroa shed 2.6 percent; Imugene, Mesoblast, Prescient and Resonance fell one percent or more; with Avita, Clarity and Starpharma down by less than one percent.

BIOTECH DAILY TOP 40 INDEX (BDI-40)

The BDI-40 fell 9.7 percent in July, following its previous month's 11.35 percent climb – in part because some stocks fell from recent highs. The collective market capitalization of the BDI-40 was $18,892 million; the benchmark ASX200 was up 2.3 percent to 8,977 points; and the Nasdaq Biotechnology Index (NBI) fell 1.7 percent to 6,453 points.

The collective market capitalization of the four Big Caps of Cochlear, CSL, Pro Medicus and Resmed, which are not included in the Biotech Daily Top 40 Index (BDI-40), continued to improve from the Cochlear and CSL tumbles, up 2.5 percent to $129,016 million at the end of July, but 47.9 percent below the $247,770 million, a year ago.

Last month's 56.3 percent best, Pro Medicus, was the only one of the four Big Caps to fall, down $4,464 million or 21.0 percent to $16,788 million. CSL recovered $6,317 million or 11.5 percent to $61,267 million, Resmed was up $1,260 million or 3.0 percent to $42,969 million, with Cochlear up $30 million or 0.4 percent to $7,992 million.

For the year to July 31, 2026, the ASX200 was up 2.7 percent, while the BDI-40 fell 12.6 percent, the Big Caps lost 47.9 percent and the NBI was up 44.7 percent.

Seventeen of the BDI-40 companies were up, in July, with 10 up by more than 10 percent, and four up by more than 30 percent; while 21 fell, of which 12 fell by more than 10 percent. Two were unchanged.

July saw many small falls and small rises with some of the most volatile from small bases.

Resonance was July's best, up $10 million or 47.6 percent to $31 million, followed by Prescient (39.1%), Actinogen (33.9%), Syntara (30.8%), Cyclopharm (27.1%), Proteomics (26.3%), Nova Eye (23.3%), Optiscan (20.8%), Dimerix (19.5%) and Medical Developments (15.6%).

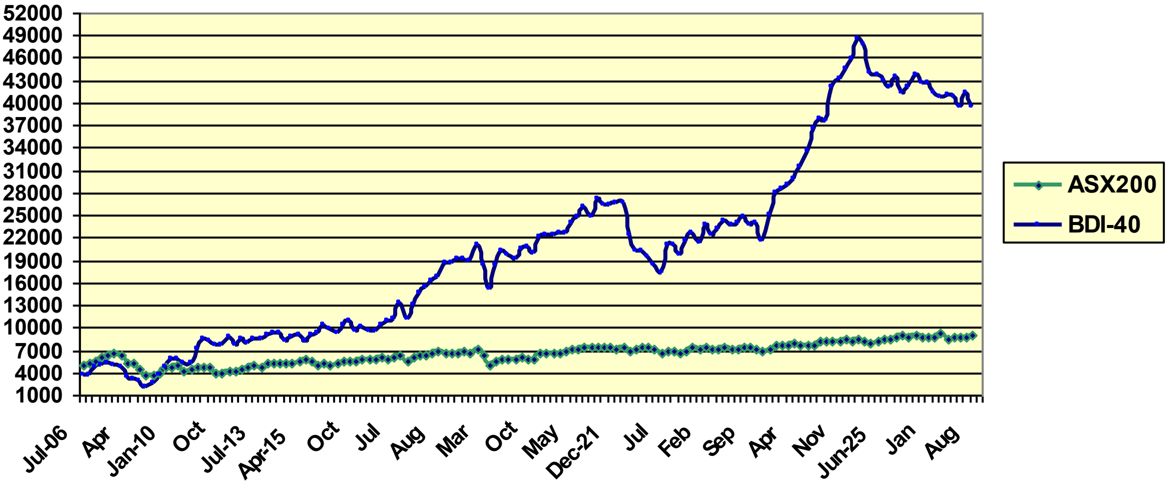
Artrya led the falls, down $337 million or 33.9 percent to $657 million, followed by 4D Medical shedding $782 million or 28.9 percent to $1,925 million, Micro-X (26.9%), EBR (25.85%), Curvebeam (25.0%), Alcidion (16.3%), Telix (15.0% or $846 million), Immutep (12.8%), Imugene (12.5%), Racura (12.2%), Compumedics (11.8%) and Impedimed (11.1%).

Outside the BDI-40, Cervyn (Opthea) lost 23.8 percent, down 98.05 percent since its trial trading halt a year ago. Inoviq lost 64.9 percent on news of unusable samples, and while Anteris eased 17.8 percent in July, it was up 494.6 percent for the year.

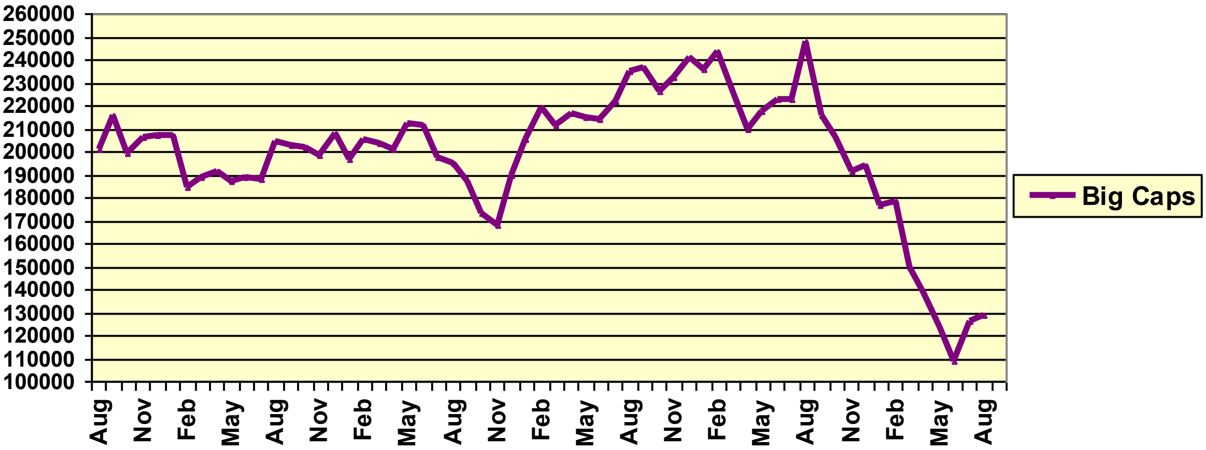
Two newish companies, Tetratherix and Vitrafy were up 4.5 percent and 17.6 percent, respectively, in July, but 56.1 percent and 154.3 percent for the year. Similarly, Blinklab was up 8.4 percent for the month, but 90.7 percent for the year. PYC edged up 0.9 percent in July, but was up 131.3 percent for the year to July 31, 2026.

Cannabis and psychedelic companies fell 5.6 percent in July to $425 million. Six companies had small gains, three fell, led by Cann Group losing 50 percent to a market capitalization of $4 million and two were unchanged. On the Nasdaq, Queensland's Protagonist was up 9.6 percent in July, but 140.4 percent to $12,496 million for the year.

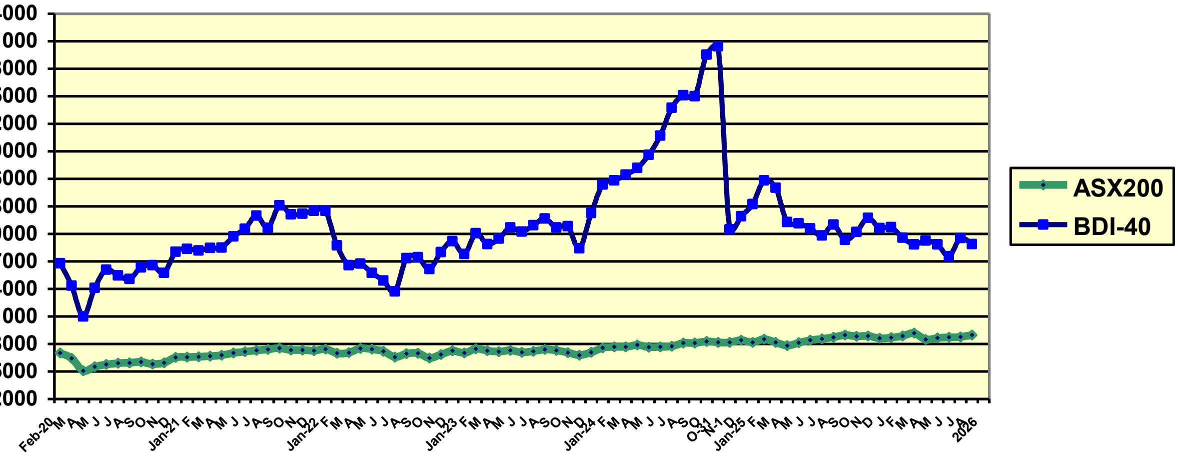
BDI-40 v ASX200 Jun 30, 2006 to Jul 31, 2026- Adjusted



5-Year Big Caps $m (COH, CSL, PME, RMD) To Jul 31, 2026



BDI-40 ($m) v S&P ASX200 – Jan31, 2020 – Jul 31, 2026 (Pre-Covid to date)



QBIOTICS GROUP

Qbiotics says its 14 of 18 tumors (77.8%) injected with tigilanol tiglate in its 16-patient, phase II trial have had an objective response for head and neck cancer.
In 2023, Qbiotics said it dosed the first of up-to 37 patients in the single-arm, open-label trial of intra-tumoral tigilanol tiglate, formerly EBC-46 (BD: Mar 31, 2023).
Today, Qbiotics managing-director Ebru Davidson said there were "significant recruitment challenges" and the study population was more heterogenous than expected.
"This included variability in tumor characteristics and the need to incorporate additional imaging modalities beyond ultrasound, which proved unsuitable for assessing some head and neck tumors," Ms Davidson said. "The protocol was amended to reduce enrolment."
The company said the objective response rate was based on "best observed response", with 14 of 18 evaluable injected tumors resulting in either complete or partial ablation, or a reduction in tumor volume.
Qbiotics said six tumors achieved complete ablation, or a 100 percent reduction in tumor volume, with all six tumors remaining recurrence free for up-to five months while the patients were on study "suggesting … durable local tumor responses".
The company said nine of 14 (64%) of evaluable patients "achieved complete or partial ablation of a treated tumor or tumor segment, meeting the primary efficacy endpoint".
Qbiotics said 16 of 16 treated patients were included in the safety analysis, with tigilanol tiglate "well-tolerated, with most adverse events consistent with its expected local mode of action, including pain, swelling and tumour necrosis".
The company said tigilanol tiglate showed "encouraging efficacy and tolerability".
Qbiotics is a public-unlisted company.

CERETAS

Ceretas climbed as much as 132 percent on its July 23, $8 million initial public offer (IPO) at 25 cents a share for its portable ultrasound Alzheimer's disease therapy.
Ceretas said it had listed on the ASX under the ticker code 'CTS', with the initial public offer valuing it at $17.8 million.
In 2024, the University of Queensland said it licenced its ultrasound therapy for Alzheimer's disease brain function to the Ceretas spin-out (BD: Dec 17, 2024).
At the time, the University said the technology was developed by Prof Jürgen Götz and would be progressed to clinical use by Ceretas.
Last year, Ceretas said it raised $1 million in seed funding to develop its ultrasound therapy for neurological illnesses such as Alzheimer's disease (BD: Feb 21, 2025)
Last month, the company said the IPO funds would be used for its 66-participant, phase II trial of neuro-modulation for behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia in Alzheimer's patients, and progress pre-clinical work in "blood-brain barrier opening".
Ceretas said its platform delivered "low-intensity focused ultra-sound non-invasively through the skull, acting on the brain via two distinct mechanisms: neuromodulation, which targets neural circuits involved in memory, cognition and the behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia, and blood-brain barrier opening which might support clearance of disease-associated proteins".
The company said a previous first-in-human, phase I trial in 12 Alzheimer's disease patients showed the treatment was "fast, safe and well tolerated, with early signs of benefit for behavioral symptoms".
According to Commsec, Rachel de las Heras was Ceretas managing-director, with John Keep chair and Dr Tony Keating, Stuart Crozier and Samuel Wetzler directors.
Ceretas was up one cent or 1.8 percent to 56 cents.

MICRO-X

Micro-X says customer receipts for the year to June 30, 2026 rose 79.5 percent to $5,005,000, compared to the previous corresponding period.
Micro-X said receipts included $4.4 million in milestone payments from research and development contracts, with $200,000 in sales of its Rover x-ray technology for health and defence, as well as $600,000 in sales post-June 30, with $400,000 received.
The company said it had a cash burn of $3,161,000 for the three months, with cash and equivalents of $3,137,000 at June 30, 2026 compared to $3,242,000 at June 30, 2025, leaving it with 0.99 quarters of available funding.
Micro-X said the cash burn was not expected to continue, it expected a $2 million Federal Research and Development Tax Incentive, with $8.1 million in development program receipts expected, and it was finalizing a convertible note facility.
Separately, the company said it had “commitments” for an $8 million, three-year convertible note placement to institutional and sophisticated investors, comprising $6 million of applications and a $2 million underwriting agreement from existing substantial shareholder the Thorney Investment Group-associated Tiga Trading, with Tiga Trading to receive a 7.5 percent fee on the underwritten notes.
Micro-X said the notes were at 12 percent annual interest, convertible at 8.0 cents a share and secured against “substantially all of the company’s assets”.
The company said shareholder Bindella Capital had committed to $5 million in notes, with $800,000 committed by directors and management, subject to investor approval.
Micro-X said the notes would be used to fund development and commercialization of its head computed tomography, commercialization of its updated Rover x-ray, operating costs and general working capital.
Micro-X said Morgans Corporate and Bell Potter Securities managed the raise.
The company said the convertible notes were part of its “strategic reset from the beginning of 2026-’27” which included $3 million in cost savings through about $2 million in cuts to employment costs and $1 million in corporate overheads.
Micro-X said it would restructure its Rover sales team, project cost control, capital allocation and board reporting as well as refocus its development priorities on medical computed tomography, its “largest future market opportunity”.
Micro-X was up 0.3 cents or 11.5 percent to 2.9 cents.

ADHERIS HEALTH (FORMERLY MEDADVISOR)

Adheris says Mindsprint Pte Ltd has filed legal proceedings against its US subsidiary in the US District Court for the Southern District of New York.
On Friday, Adheris said it signed a master services agreement with Singapore’s Mindsprint in August 2025 for information technology development and managed services, but this year terminated the relevant statements of work and the agreement “for cause”.
Adheris said Mindsprint alleged “breach of contract and related claims, seeks a declaratory judgement that terminations should be treated as terminations for convenience rather than terminations for cause, and claims damages of not less than $US2.3 million ($A3.3 million) plus costs”.
The company said it disputed the claims in their entirety, considers the terminations to be valid terminations for cause, and intends to vigorously defend the proceedings”.
Adheris said the matter was “at an early stage and … [it did] not consider it possible to reliably quantify any potential financial impact arising from the proceedings”.
The company said proceedings were “not expected to impact the company's operations”.
Adheris fell 0.2 cents or 11.1 percent to 1.6 cents.

RECCE PHARMACEUTICALS

Recce says a US Government report states $US66.9 billion is needed for emergency medical counter-measures, complementing two of its agreements with the US Army.
The US Department of Health and Human Services 2025-'29 Budget report said that $US66.9 billion ($A95.2 billion) was required for capabilities against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats, including research and development.
The report said it was provided $US6.7 billion in 2024-'25 for medical counter-measures and related activities and starting in 2026-'27 increased investments would address development or stockpile gaps, including product transitions from Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority to the Strategic National Stockpile.
The report said threats included broad-spectrum anti-microbials for anthrax, botulinum, filoviruses such as Ebola and Marburg, haemorrhagic fever, smallpox, typhus and plague.
Recce said last week that broad-spectrum anti-microbials were the second-largest, single-threat priority in the US Department of Health and Human Services strategy, with a projected need of $US4.46 billion; and the continued prioritization by the US Government of anti-microbial resistance and broad-spectrum anti-microbial development was "most significant with respect to Recce's ongoing engagement with the US Department of War".
Recce managing-director James Graham said the budget confirmed "the national security and health threats caused by anti-microbial resistance and the US Government's prioritization of the need for new anti-infective drugs".
"Recce 327 has demonstrated activity against many of the priority pathogens named in this plan, which reinforces the strategic value of our ongoing biodefense collaborations, and we look forward to continuing that work," Mr Graham said.
Recce was up one cent or 2.7 percent to 38 cents.

MONASH UNIVERSITY

Monash University says with Create Medicines it will develop a cell-type-specific, in-vivo CAR therapy delivery system using lipid nano-particle (LNP) technology.
The University said the Cambridge, Massachusetts' Create Medicines would use Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences' (MIPS) advanced LNP technology including binders and chemistry to develop a chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) delivery system.
Monash University said targeted delivery was "one of the primary challenges in realizing the full therapeutic potential of in-vivo cell therapies, requiring increasingly precise control over which immune cells receive therapeutic payloads".
Monash University said Create Medicines would receive an exclusive licence to all intellectual property from the collaboration, "together with the right to develop and commercialize CAR products directed to designated CAR targets".
The University said MIPS would receive research funding and downstream milestone and royalty payments.
Monash University said Create Medicines was a clinical-stage biotechnology company developing in-vivo immune programming, including a messenger (m)RNA-LNP technology for engineering T cells, natural killer (NK) cells and myeloid cells inside the body to enable scalable repeat-dose, off-the-shelf immuno-therapies.
Monash vice-chancellor Prof Sharon Pickering said the partnership would "accelerate the work of Monash's … pharmaceutical researchers to design new immuno-therapies and speed the translation of their work into new life-changing cancer treatments".
Create Medicines chief executive officer Dr Daniel Getts said Monash University brought "LNP engineering, and paired with our already clinically validated and targeted mRNA platform, we can further apply that precision across an even broader range of targets".

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

The University of New South Wales says it has a fully-flexible, light sensor that "precisely detects changes in the body's electrical signals" to map the heart and brain.

The University of New South Wales said that engineers from its School of Biomedical Engineering had developed an 'optrode', or optical sensor, that converted the body's electrical signals directly into light signals.

The University said the sensor was designed to mimic the softness of human tissue and showed a 98.4 percent viability rate in animal studies, "paving the way for safer and less invasive long-term monitoring technologies".

UNSW said the researchers believed the sensor, "which had only been tested on animals so far, could transform how the human body is mapped by delivering clearer and more precise insights into electrical activity".

The University said the research, titled 'Flexible polymer-based liquid crystal sensor for label-free electro-optical recording of electrophysiological activity' was published in Nature Partner Journal at: https://www.nature.com/articles/s41528-026-00625-6.

UNSW said the device did not "need local electronics or bulky wires at the tissue site to work, making it immune to electrical interference, a major issue in current bioelectronic devices".

The University said researchers tested how well the flexible 'optrodes' could live in cell cultures, examining if the cells remained healthy, grew normally and safely functioned without any harm, with no signs of toxicity or contamination found.

UNSW said the further in-vivo studies were needed to improve the signal resolution and that the technology could be adapted for monitoring the gut, muscles, or individual cells.

ONTRACKA AUSTRALIA PTY LTD

Ontracka says it has will provide digital monitoring systems for "multiple [unnamed] high-profile clinical trials in the US, funded by [US] National Institutes of Health grants".

Sydney's Ontracka said its enterprise software would be used as the primary monitoring infrastructure for a US, phase II, randomized, double-masked clinical trial of an alternative therapy to injectable GLP-1 medicines for adults with obesity.

The company said it developed and commercialized software for decentralized clinical trials and data capture and had recorded more than 13 million clinical data points with a patient retention rate of more than 85 percent.

Ontracka said it operated "strictly as a high-barrier, enterprise-grade [business to business] infrastructure partner for global clinical trial sponsors, researchers, and healthcare institutions".

The company said it was originally founded in 2019 by forensic social worker Chad Walkaden following his survival of stage IV cancer at Westmead Hospital.

Ontracka is a private company.

OSTEOPORE

Osteopore says the first patient in Hainan, China has received treatment for a bone defect in the upper arm using its custom orthopaedic device.

Earlier this year, Osteopore said it had Hainan Products Administration approval for its orthopaedic custom medical devices at the Shanghai Ruijin Hospital (BD: May 26, 2026).

Today, the company said the device was used to reconstruct a 12-centimetre bone defect in the upper limb of a six-year-old patient following the resection of a malignant tumor.

Osteopore was up 0.05 cents or 12.5 percent to 0.45 cents.

NEURIZON THERAPEUTICS (FORMERLY PHARMAUST)

Neurizon says it has a $17.5 million loan from Dare Capital Loan Fund secured against its expected Federal Research and Development Tax Incentive.
Neurizon said the loan was at 1.25 percent monthly interest and repayable on receipt of its Tax Incentive, with all outstanding amounts repayable by December 31, 2026.
The company said an initial drawdown of about $8 million was expected to be available on execution, with yearly options to support its 2026-'27 and 2027-'28 R&DTI claims.
Neurizon said the funds would be used to reduce its reliance on other forms of funding including its Obsidian convertible note facility.
Neurizon was up 0.1 cents or 1.6 percent to 6.3 cents.

BLINKLAB

Blinklab has requested a trading halt "pending an announcement in relation to [attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder] study results".
Trading will resume on August 5, 2026, or on an earlier announcement.
Blinklab last traded at 67.5 cents.

AVECHO BIOTECHNOLOGY

Avecho says it has been granted a patent relating to its tocopheryl phosphate mixture (TPM)-enhanced cannabidiol (CBD) insomnia treatment capsule in Japan.
Avecho said the patent, titled 'Oral cannabinoid formulation comprising tocopheryl phosphates and long chain triglycerides or long chain fatty acids' would protect its intellectual property until 2041.
Avecho was unchanged at 1.9 cents with 2.2 million shares traded.

ADHERIS HEALTH (FORMERLY MEDADVISOR)

Melbourne's Mercer Investments says it has become a substantial shareholder in Adheris with 32,880,343 shares, or 5.154 percent of the company.
Mercer said it bought shares between July 3 and 28, from 1.4 cents to 1.73 cents a share.

MICRO-X

Micro-X says its US chief executive officer Dr Brian Gonzales will replace Kingsley Hall as group chief executive officer, effective from August 3, 2026, on $349,000 a year.
Micro-X said Dr Gonzales had more than 21 years of experience in cold cathode x-ray technology and had worked for the company since 2017 as lead scientist, chief scientific officer and US chief executive officer.
The company said Dr Gonzales held a Doctor of Philosophy from Chapel Hill's University of North Carolina and Raleigh's North Carolina State University.
Micro-X said Dr Gonzales would be eligible for a short-term incentive worth about $154,251 and long-term incentives of up-to $154,251, subject to performance assessments.
The company said Mr Hall would remain available to the company in an advisory capacity until November 3, 2026, "to support continuity and transition of responsibilities".
Micro-X said the appointment formed "part of the strategic reset the company is implementing from the beginning of 2026-'27 to sharpen its focus on medical [computed tomography]" (see above).

BIOTECH DAILY TOP 40 WITH MARKET CAPITALIZATION AT JUL 31, 2026

Company $Am	Jul 31, 2025	Jun 30, 2026	Jul 31, 2026
Cochlear	20,830	7,962	7,992
CSL	131,173	54,950	61,267
Pro Medicus	33,626	21,252	16,788
Resmed	62,141	41,709	42,969
BDI-20			
4D Medical	112	2,707	1,925
Aroa	217	206	197
Avita	222	185	200
Clarity	1,625	798	783
Clinuvel	650	518	468
Compumedics	61	51	45
Cyclopharm	116	59	75
Dimerix	282	123	147
EBR Systems	634	294	218
Immutep	396	78	68
Imricor	393	652	667
Medical Developments	69	45	52
Mesoblast	3,046	2,531	2,649
Nanosonics	1,230	995	936
Neuren	2,178	2,250	2,216
Nova Eye	41	30	37
Orthocell	312	197	199
Polynovo	891	636	584
Syntara	98	39	51
Telix	7,123	5,627	4,781
Second 20			
Actinogen	76	115	154
Alcidion	154	141	118
Amplia	117	74	67
Artrya	117	994	657
Atomo	14	15	15
Botanix	294	52	52
Curvebeam	31	12	9
Emvision	149	141	148
Impedimed	95	18	16
Imugene	78	48	42
Lumos	55	99	94
Micro-X	55	26	19
Optiscan	88	125	151
Paradigm	141	96	98
Prescient	38	64	89
Proteomics	59	19	24
Racura Oncology	202	435	382
Resonance	17	21	31
Saluda	89	116	112
Starpharma	42	295	316

* Biotech Daily editor, David Langsam, owns shares in 4D Medical, Acrux, Actinogen, Alcidion, Amplia, Clarity, Cochlear, EBR, Nanosonics, Neuren, Patrys, Percheron, Polynovo and Telix, as well as unlisted and non-biotech stocks.
Through Australian Ethical Superannuation he has an indirect interest in other companies:
https://www.australianethical.com.au/personal/ethical-investing/companies-we-invest-in/. These holdings are liable to change.

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