BENITEC BIOPHARMA
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silenceworks

BENITEC'S PROGRESS IN SILENCE

Snapshot

Market Data as at December 12, 2013

ASX Code:	**BLT**
Market Cap:	$42.55 million
52 Week High/Low:	$0.275 - $0.75*
Shares on issue:	85.1 million
Industry sector:	Biotechnology

* Converted to post consolidation pricing

In this issue

Year of Living Dangerously - Peter French looks back

As Benitec clears the latest hurdle in its quest to prove the first ddRNAi-based drug in man, CEO and MD Peter French looks back over 12 months that have changed the company forever. In this frank interview, Peter traces the journey which started with the acquisition of Tacere and its advanced Hepatitis C drug TT-034 in December 2012, progressed through the lows and highs of fund-raising and culminated in submission of an Investigational New Drug (IND) application for TT-034 with the US FDA, a major transformation for the company. Read his story ▸

Benitec submits IND application for TT-034 to US FDA

On December 6, 2013, Benitec completed submission of its IND application to the US FDA for TT-034, a 'game-changing' treatment for Hepatitis C. The application includes the trial protocol, toxicology and extensive preclinical data for the first-in-man clinical trial of a systemic ddRNAi-based therapeutic. Given the extensive support data, the trial is likely to demonstrate clinical safety and efficacy, which will establish ddRNAi's potential as a disruptive technology for the treatment of Hepatitis C—and countless other human diseases. This should be a major value inflection point for Benitec. Full details ▸

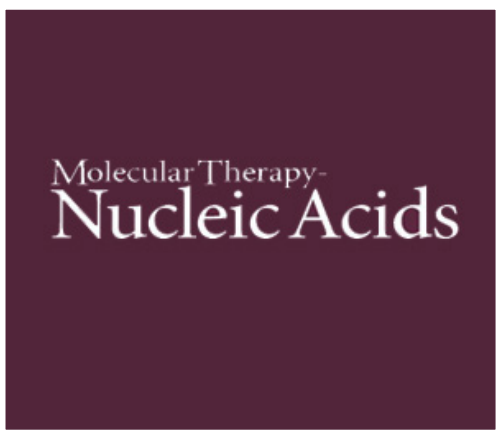
LODGE PARTNERS

Lodge Partners: FDA review is 'low risk' and 'value adding'

On December 2, 2013, Lodge Partners Research issued a report on Benitec's (then pending) submission of the IND application (see above). In the report, Lodge Partners said it regards the FDA's review of the submission as 'low risk' yet 'value adding' and expects the clinical trial to commence shortly after the review. It also noted the significant value increase of other RNAi companies after releasing positive results from clinical trials, and retained its 'BUY' rating and a 12-month price target to 85c. Full report ▸

Callimune nears completion of enrolment for first HIV cohort

The CSO of Calimmune, Dr Geoff Symonds, addressed the Sydney Information Session for Benitec shareholders in November. Dr Symonds explained Calimmune's approach: extracting immune stem cells from HIV patients, and treating them with a ddRNAi-based vector to silence the gene that codes for the receptor used by the virus to infect cells. The modified cells are then injected back into the patient, thereby conferring resistance to HIV. He also advised that enrolment of the first cohort is almost complete. Read the full presentation released last week.



Third paper on TT-034 to be published in prestigious journal

A third paper characterising the mode of action of TT-034 is to be published by the prestigious, peer-reviewed journal, Molecular Therapy—Nucleic Acids. The paper was authored by Benitec's Senior Vice President of R&D, David Suhy, and several researchers from Pfizer as a result of a previous collaboration. The paper found the mode of action to be more elaborate than previously thought and the likelihood of adverse clinical effects to be very low, and concluded that TT-034's advance to the clinic to investgate its potential to treat HCV patients, was justified. More details ▸

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