

silenceworks

BENITEC'S PROGRESS IN SILENCE

MARKET SNAPSHOT

Market Data as at February 2, 2015

ASX Code:BLT
OTC Code BTEBY
Market Cap:AUD 92,482,888
52 Week High/low:AUD 2.38-0.52
Shares on Issue:115,603,610
Industry Sector:Pharmaceuticals,
Biotechnology & Life Sciences

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CLINICAL TRIAL OF TT-034 FOR HEPATITIS C ADVANCES WITH DOSING OF PATIENT THREE

(See below)



Benitec advances hepatitis C clinical trial

On January 7, 2015 Benitec announced the dosing of the third patient in its first-in-man clinical trial of TT-034, a ddRNAi-based therapy for hepatitis C. The dosing followed review of the safety data from the patients in the first cohort by the trial's Data Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB). The third patient received a higher dose than the first two and, like them, will be monitored for six weeks. If the safety data indicates no adverse effects, the DSMB should recommend dosing of patients four and five to proceed in parallel. Validation of the efficacy and safety of TT-034 through this clinical trial will be a key milestone for Benitec. [More](#)

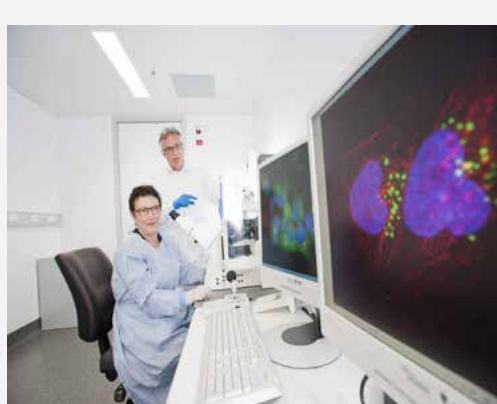


Image: Paul Henderson-Kelly

Benitec's collaborators discover how drug resistance works

In December 2014, Benitec's research collaborators at CCIA (UNSW) in Sydney uncovered a significant mode of action of beta III-tubulin (TUBB3) in resistance of non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) cells to chemotherapy drugs. Their findings, published in the peer-reviewed journal Cancer Research, showed that TUBB3 plays a key role in a cellular pathway associated with survival of lung cancer cells and that ddRNAi suppresses this pathway. The Benitec-CCIA program, using ddRNAi-based Tribetarna™ to target TUBB3 in NSCLC, is now undergoing IND-enabling studies. [More](#)



Hamburg (Image Stefan Korff)

Beta III tubulin implicated in two more 'hard-to-treat' cancers

In January 2015, two independent research groups published findings implicating beta III tubulin (TUBB3) in more cancer types. UNSW (Sydney) researchers showed in Oncotarget that TUBB3 was expressed in pancreatic cancer cells and that RNAi inhibited tumour growth, volume and metastases. Researchers at the University Medical Centre (Hamburg) showed in the World Journal of Urology that TUBB3 was increased in renal (kidney) cancers, and was linked to advanced disease stage and lower patient survival. These findings suggest that silencing TUBB3 has the potential to treat many more cancers than just lung cancer. [More](#)



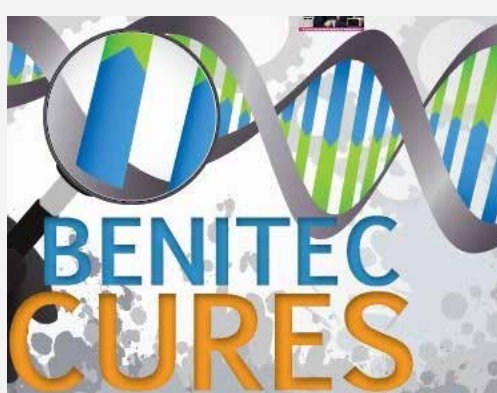
Benitec expands production team to facilitate vector scale-up

In December 2014, Benitec appointed US-based Dr Claudia Kloth as Vice President of Manufacturing, to guide development and scale-up of its AAV vector production. AAV vectors are used in Benitec's therapeutics for hepatitis C and B, and age-related macular degeneration (AMD). With the clinical trial of TT-034 for HCV progressing well (see above), the company is preparing for the next stage, which is scale-up. Dr Kloth has 14 years experience in process development and cGMP manufacturing, most recently with gene therapy vectors including AAV. [More](#)



Benitec presents at Biotech Showcase/JP Morgan in San Francisco

In January 2015, Benitec's CEO and MD Dr Peter French presented to the 7th Annual Biotechnology Showcase, held in San Francisco in conjunction with the JP Morgan 33rd Annual Healthcare Conference. Dr French explained ddRNAi and its wide application compared to many RNAi therapeutics, described the scope of the diseases targeted by Benitec's in-house and out-licensed ddRNAi programs, and highlighted the investment opportunity presented by Benitec's sizeable potential yet relatively low market capitalisation. [More](#)



Benitec's CEO and MD features in February The CEO Magazine

An insightful interview with Benitec's CEO and MD Dr Peter French appears in the February edition of *CEO Magazine*. In it, Peter highlights the significance of the current hepatitis C clinical trial and the impact of a successful outcome for the company. He also charts the last 10 years of Benitec's achievements and returns to the seminal discovery of ddRNAi by Benitec's now CSO, Dr Mick Graham. [More](#)



Benitec's programs and partnering feature in MergerMarket

In January, *MergerMarket* journalist Ilene Friedland interviewed Benitec's CEO and MD, Dr Peter French, about the company's pipeline programs and partnering activities. In the report, Dr French says that the company is building its pipeline programs with the aim of attracting interest in partnerships with big pharma companies and is considering a stronger US presence, following establishment of its main research laboratory in the Bay Area in San Francisco late last year. [More](#)