

# Immutep Limited

## Leading not lagging in immuno-oncology development

Immutep Limited (ASX:IMM) is a biotechnology company that is a leader in the development of LAG-3 related immunotherapeutic products for the treatment of cancer and autoimmune disease. IMM's current lead product candidate is eftilagimod alpha (efti), a soluble LAG-3 fusion protein, which is a first-in-class antigen presenting cell activator being explored in cancer and infectious disease. IMM is also developing an agonist of LAG-3 (IMP761) for the treatment of autoimmune disease which is in pre-clinical development. The group is exploring all avenues to leverage the technology and as a result has candidates under their own development and under partnership with majors. The company's two key clinical trials evaluating efti are a Phase 2b AIPAC trial in metastatic breast cancer and a Phase 2 TACTI-002 trial in non-small cell lung cancer and head & neck cancer. Efficacy data from these trials has been encouraging and expected to see progression into Phase 3 during FY22. The funding pathway has recently been strengthened (out to ~Q4CY23) by the issue of 129.23m shares at \$0.52c to raise \$67.2m, bringing proforma net cash to \$113m. Funds will be used for manufacturing, working capital, R&D and progressing these programs in clinical trials.

### Business model

IMM's business model is to cement its position as a global leader in the development of LAG-3 by exploring product candidates across immuno-oncology and autoimmune diseases. IMM has drugs under their own development and in partnership with a number of global players that have drugs already FDA approved. The group ultimately is looking to license drugs under development to big pharma to progress to commercialisation.

### A summary of trials underway

IMM currently has 5 clinical trials underway evaluating lead product candidate, eftilagimod alpha (efti) in various settings. The most advanced of these trials are a phase 2b combination trial (AIPAC) with chemotherapy in metastatic breast cancer and a phase 2 combination trial (TACTI-002) with KEYTRUDA™ (MSD) in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> line non-small cell lung carcinoma (NSCLC) and 2<sup>nd</sup> line head and neck squamous cell carcinoma (HNSCC). IMM has recently initiated a phase 2b combination trial (TACTI-003) with KEYTRUDA in 1<sup>st</sup> line HNSCC. The group also has an investigator-initiated platform trial evaluating efti in several novel settings which is being undertaken through the Institute of Clinical Cancer Research (IKF), Germany and a phase 2 investigator-initiated trial in COVID-19 being undertaken by the University Hospital Pilsen, Czech Republic. Positive data readout from the AIPAC trial is expected to result in clinical development to a phase 3 trial in FY22.

### Well-funded clinical stage drug developers are key peers

Comparing biotech stocks with different technologies across different indications is complex. Addressable markets, stage of development, strength and terms of patents, licensing terms, ability to manufacture at commercial scale and potential partners are just some of the considerations. Companies that have adopted similar models to IMM with difficult indications and at an early to mid-stage of development and relatively well-funded include Kazia Therapeutics (ASX:KZA), Paradigm Biopharmaceuticals (ASX:PAR), Antisense Therapeutics (ASX:ANP) and Actinogen (ASX:ACW). Relative to this group IMM has the highest cash to market cap ratio at ~25% (PAR and KZA ~16%) and is equal largest in market cap terms along with PAR.

## Biotechnology

10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### Share details

ASX Code	IMM
Share price	\$0.54
Market Capitalisation	\$459.5M
Shares on issue	850.9M
Net cash at 30/06/21*	\$113.0M
Free float	95.86%

### Share performance (12 months)



### Upside Case

- Further licensing deals for lead candidates
- Progress trial(s) to next phase
- New product registration(s)

### Downside Case

- Fail to meet primary endpoint(s) in trials
- Patient recruitment disruptions
- Ability to manufacture at commercial scale

### Catalysts/upcoming events

- Recruitment & data from TACTI-002
- Recruitment for TACTI-003
- Final Overall Survival data from AIPAC

### Comparable companies (Aust/NZ)

Kazia Therapeutics (ASX:KZA),  
Paradigm Biopharmaceuticals (ASX:PAR),  
Antisense Therapeutics (ASX:ANP), Actinogen (ASX:ACW)

### Top 5 shareholders\*

Bank of New York Mellon	32.8%
Fidelity International	6.2%
Australian Ethical	4.9%
Marc Voigt	1.0%
Frederic Triebel	0.8%

\*identifiable from annual report and Refinitiv

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# FINANCIAL SERVICES GUIDE

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**of**

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**ABN 92 168 734 530**

**AFSL 456663**

**Effective Date: 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

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- how we are paid, and
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