

[Read Today's Paper](#)

[Tributes](#)

10:41am Wednesday, September 2nd, 2026

[Melbourne](#)

Today



12 ° / 18 ° >

Herald Sun
We're for you



Hi, George



[Business](#) [Stockhead](#)

Biocurious: It's spring, when a young



"Ooh that's nice but I would rather a statistically significant, randomised, double blinded trial readout." Pic: Getty Images

MoCrucial trial results are pending from Recce, Paradigm and Actinogen Medical



Stockhead

Good morning! Here's everything you need to know before the ASX flings open its doors and begins trading today. Biocurious is loath to indulge in hyperbole, but the results are likely to be 'do or die' for these companies.



Advertisement

Raid: Shadow Legends



The Most Realistic PC Game of August 2026



Leaders & Companies

Millions of knee osteoarthritis sufferers globally are keenly awaiting the results of the study, PARA-OA-012.



SA News

itis sufferers globally
-OA-012.



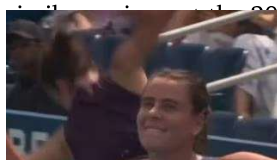
Business

Airservices boss

Two weeks ago, a data safety monitoring board completed its planned safety review of around 80% of participants who had completed dosing

Good Morning George

Good Morning George Recommended based on what you've read
The review recommended the trial continue without modification, as did



AFL

UPDATED: The journal's peer review process is "open and transparent."

Tennis world stunned

‘Never got the hype’:

The premiership Tiger

Bioprospector Paradigm Kyle blasts radio stars, dishing new blues and Zilosul recipient Simon White for a further steer on timing, but he only had this to say:

"It will be before the first siren of the Carlton v Fremantle 2026 grand final."

You read that one here first!

The study enrolled 538 patients, who were randomised to receive either Zilosul or a placebo on a one-to-one basis, over a six-week treatment period.

[AFL](#) [Police Courts Victoria](#) [Victoria](#) [Confidential](#) [News](#) [Localfooty](#)

The recruitment exceeded the targeted 466 patients. The study is being carried out across 57 sites, 41 of them in the US and 12 in Australia.

SPONSORED

How to get free hotel upgrades

The primary endpoint is the change in pain intensity at day 14. Forget endless online scrolling. Experts reveal how they unlock free upgrades, exclusive experiences and better deals for travellers.



The interim analysis covers 50% of participants

Trending now

The idea of Zilosul is to reduce the inflammation involved in knee OA. Zilosul is also thought to prompt actual cartilage regeneration, which is a secondary endpoint.

Page detail after bank executive stabbed to death in Times Square



Read More

Former prince Andrew accused of 'sex crimes in the 1990s': the shares have almost 30% in the last week and 40% over the last month.



AFL

Recce versus stockhead

Recce boss on AFL's integrity mess



Royals

Meghan faces hiring crisis over 'rude' interview



Synthetic antibiotic developer Recce tentatively hopes for interim results from its pivotal Indonesian phase III trial by the end of October.

AFL News

Breaking the bank? Five-year trial kicked off. Watering offer Cats have put to Butters



Commercial Real Estate

Man sues Bunnings in shock \$6m fight



The study road tests the company's Recce 327 gel (R327G), for diabetic foot infections (DFIs).

Police & Courts

The road was officers to ignore overflowing cells in bail calls



Diabetes

The Billie Eilish song 'What Was I Made For' is a hit film?



Victoria

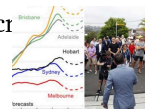
Raising age of criminal responsibility back on Labor's radar under. The interim analysis applies to the first 150 patients recruited across 57 sites.



Diabetes will require amputations.

National

150 patients, recruited across 57 sites, will require amputations.



Should the results stack up, Recce hopes the drug will be approved and commercialised in Indonesia next year.

Aussie trial, you beaut

In May this year Recce signed a non-binding term sheet with a "leading Middle Eastern pharma company" for a ten-year, exclusive multi-country licensing deal.

Meanwhile, Recce is carrying out an Australian-based phase III DFI trial. The study aims for Australian and US approval.

Stockhead

Last month an ethics committee approved a trial protocol amendment, which enables the addition of a randomised, active-controlled, non-inferiority study arm.

[Follow](#)

The 208 patients receive either R327G, or one of four physician-selected antibiotics for comparison.

“Patient dosing continues under the existing trial protocol, with recruitment and treatment ongoing ahead of implementation of this newly approved amendment,” Recce says.

CEO James Graham says the ethics approval means recruitment can be widened to moderate, below-the-knee cases with multiple ulcers.

This accounts for around about 80% of the market.

Previously, the trial could only enrol below-the-ankle, mild cases with single ulcers. This cohort accounts for around 30% of the market.

“The is based on FDA accepted guidance and dramatically increases recruitment, market opportunity etcetera,” Graham says.

The company plans an interim analysis at the 104-patient mark. This is likely to occur in late 2027 or early 2028.

“R327G has the potential to become the first standard of care used by physicians for the treatment of DFIs,” Graham says.

R327 is one of four synthetic antibiotics Recce is developing.

The aim, of course, is to address the global problem of antibiotic-resistant superbugs.

Actinogen eyes Alzheimer’s breakthrough

In its pursuit of a better treatment for Alzheimer’s disease, Actinogen is comforted by late January’s ‘futility’ interim analysis which showed that continuing the pivotal trial would be – well – far from pointless.

Dubbed Xanamia, the pivotal phase IIb/III trial road tests Xanamem (emestedastat).

Xanamem targets the suspected role of excess brain cortisol levels in triggering the disease. The notion of cortisol’s involvement in the disease has been around for decades, but no one has quite been able to prove it.

Xanamem targets 11beta-hydroxy-steroid dehydrogenase type 1 (11beta-HSD1).

That’s not a Holden Special Vehicle, but a cortisol-producing enzyme expressed in parts of the brain governing memory and mood.

In its full year results last Thursday, Actinogen confirmed the study remained on track for topline final results in November.

The company reports that 89% of participants (108) have moved on to an open-label extension study.

“The good news is that as people are on the drug for longer and we are not seeing any surprising safety concerns,” says Actinogen CEO Dr Steven Gourlay.

Should the study pass muster, Actinogen has agreed with the FDA and the European regulator on a streamlined further placebo-controlled pivotal trial of Xanamem.

"I'm feeling quite good about our program," Gourlay says.

"Our endpoints are clear and it is good high-quality drug development."

He stresses the trial relies on clinical outcomes – read: patient improvement – rather than high falutin' biomarker measures (our words).

Plan B from biotech space

In July the peer-reviewed British Journal of Psychiatry published a write-up of Actinogen's separate phase II proof-of-concept study.

The trial measured the effect of Xanamem on patients with major depression and cognitive impairment.

In short, the journal opined the drug was "worthy of further investigation."

Gourlay says an Alzheimer's therapy is "far and away" more valuable than a depression treatment.

But the company is open to pursuing a trial of depression in Alzheimer's patients.

"We are not saying we will or won't do it," he says.

"Maybe we can do a trial in older patients, perhaps with dementia or maybe not.

"If we could get that antidepressant activity as a feature for the drug into the prescribing information locally, that would be a really nice boost to the value of the molecule."

He says the current interest in psychedelics highlights the need for new depression treatments beyond the current selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs, such as Prozac).

Gourlay dubs the chances of a complete Alzheimer's flop as unlikely, "as we have so much data showing the activity of the drug in the brain".

The company posted a full-year net loss of \$15.3m, having incurred \$19m of R&D costs. With \$16m in the bank, the company is well funded into 2027.

"If we found ourselves in a sticky situation, we have the time and the money and the right people to sort that out."

Actinogen shares have blipped 48% year on year, but more recently shareholders have kept a lid on their excitement.

"Every CEO says we are hopelessly undervalued, but the net present value of a positive result is enormously higher than our current valuation," Gourlay says.

And – no - we are not licensed financial advisers.

Originally published as [Biocurious: It's spring, when a young man's fancy lightly turns to ... clinical trial results](#)

Advertisement



Membership	About Us	Contact Us	Our News Network	Our Partners	Our Apps
Subscription packages	About us	Help & support	The Daily Telegraph	Buy Search Sell Classifieds	 
Group/Corporate subscriptions	Meet the team	Story Tips	The Courier Mail	Find Your Local	
Herald Sun app	Job Opportunities	FAQs	The Advertiser	Foxsports	
Today's Paper	Code of conduct	Standards of practice	news.com.au	Foxtel	
Newsletters	Subscription FAQs	Letter to the Editor	The Australian	Hipages	
	Subscription terms	Licensing & Reprints	The Mercury	Kayo	
	Financial Hardship Policy	Advertise with us	Geelong Advertiser	My Tributes	
			The Cairns Post	Punters	
			odds.com.au		
			Gold Coast Bulletin	racenet.com.au	
			Townsville Bulletin	News24 Australia	
			The Chronicle	Coupons	
			NT News		
			The Weekly Times		
			CODE Sports		

A NOTE ABOUT RELEVANT CONTENT: We collect information about the content (including ads) you use across this site and use it to make both advertising and content more relevant to you on our network and other sites. Find out more about our policy and your choices, including how to opt-out of targeted advertising based on your browsing behaviour on our network. Sometimes our articles will try to help you find the right product at the right price. We may receive payment from third parties for publishing this content or when you make a purchase through the links on our sites.

Nationwide News Pty Ltd © 2026. All times AEST (GMT +10). Powered by WordPress.com VIP

[Privacy policy](#) [Relevant ads opt-out](#) [Cookie policy](#) [Terms of use](#)