

Biotechnology

IMMP - NASDAQ

March 15, 2018

Closing Price 03/14/2018	\$1.93
Rating:	Buy
12-Month Target Price:	\$5.00
52-Week Range:	\$1.25 - \$2.85
Market Cap (M):	46
Shares O/S (M):	24.0
Float:	0.0%
Avg. Daily Volume (000):	45
Debt (M):	\$0.0
Dividend:	\$0.00
Dividend Yield:	0.00%
Risk Profile:	Speculative
Fiscal Year End:	June

Total Expenses ('000)

	2017A	2018E	2019E
H1	3,716	7,440A	6,864
H2	6,917	6,877	7,436
FY	10,633	14,317	14,300
Prior	—	13,411	14,081



Immutep Limited

Buy

Raises Capital (\$5.4M), Extends Runway as IMP321 Expands to a New Combination Study with Keytruda

Summary

- Immutep recently announced a capital raise with institutional investors bringing in \$5.4M on the issuance of 326M ordinary shares (3.26M ADS) at a price of \$0.017 per ordinary share (\$1.70 per ADS). We estimate Immutep currently has \$17M in cash on the balance sheet which, at a burn rate of \$3-4M per quarter, provides runway into 2019.
- Concurrent with the capital raise, Immutep announced a collaboration and supply agreement with Merck (MRK - NR) to evaluate Immutep's soluble LAG-3, IMP321 (eftilagimod, "efti"), in combination with Keytruda to treat solid tumors (lung, head and neck, ovarian). The trial will be a P2 study (TACTI-002) with N=120 patients and is expected to initiate in 2H18. This is the second combination study with Keytruda. Recall the P1/2 study in melanoma is ongoing with data updates expected in 2018.
- In addition to the combination studies with Keytruda, we also expect to see data updates from the ongoing P2b study of IMP321 + chemotherapy in breast cancer in 2018 as well as updates (timing not disclosed) on progress with partners Novartis (IMP701, solid tumors) and GlaxoSmithKline (IMP731) in autoimmune diseases.
- Conclusion: We view the capital raise as a positive for Immutep (small discount, no warrants) that extends the runway and positions the company to reach the next set of catalysts over 2018, which now includes a second combination study with Keytruda. We continue to believe that LAG-3 could be the next checkpoint to emerge to be paired with the PD1s and PD-L1s.**

Details

IMP321 is Immutep's lead LAG-3 candidate, and it is in development as an immune adjuvant or immune stimulator. IMP321 is a soluble dimeric recombinant form of LAG-3Ig, a fusion protein used to increase the immune response to tumors by stimulating dendritic cells through high affinity binding to MHC class II molecules on the dendritic cell surface. LAG-3 is one of two proteins shown to be able to properly condition dendritic cells (and monocytes) to undergo maturation and step up the stimulation of antigen targeting T-cells (the other is CD40 ligand). What's important to note is that both LAG-3 and CD40 can do this without inflammation. IMP321 was developed by Dr. Frédéric Triebel in the late 1990s as a dendritic-cell activator. When used at low doses, it can be used as a T-cell adjuvant for cancer vaccines. At higher doses, IMP321 can be combined with cancer chemotherapy to ramp up the immune response by driving dendritic cells and monocytes to increase tumor antigen presentation.

Large indications and the right partners. Novartis (NVS - NR) has licensed IMP701 for development as a combination therapy with PD1 inhibitors in solid tumors. The ongoing clinical study in multiple cancer types has (as of January 2018) expanded to enroll another 99 patients, now N=515. Novartis will also initiate another N=160 program in hematological and solid cancer in combination with its PD1 inhibitor PDR001. GlaxoSmithKline (GSK - NR) is evaluating IMP731 in a phase I study in psoriasis with that trial expected to complete in March 2018. Immutep will receive single-digit royalties from each partnership. The lead in-house program, IMP321, an antigen-presenting cell (APC) activator that ramps up T-cell production following chemotherapy, already demonstrated POC in breast cancer and is currently in a phase IIb registration study. IMP321 could launch in 2020. A phase I study of an IMP321 combination with Keytruda in melanoma patients is also positive so far and demonstrated tumor reductions in 58% of patients and in collaboration with Merck, a phase II trial in multiple solid tumors is expected to commence in 2H18.

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Income Statement (\$'000, USD)	July-Dec			Jan-Jun			July-Dec			Jan-Jun					
Immutep I: YE June 30	1H-2017A	2H-2017A	2017A	1H-2018A	2H-2018E	2018E	2019E	2020E	2021E	2022E	2023E	2024E	2025E		
Revenue (000's)															
Total Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
License revenue				2,013	2,000	4,013									
Miscellaneous income	173	443	616	259	250	509									
Grant Income	1,051	1,503	2,553	1,034	1,000	2,034									
Milestones and Royalties:															
IMP321 (Breast cancer)									5,659	14,575	44,426	57,141	65,615		
IMP321 (Melanoma)								-	-	-	10,580	20,652	30,732		
IMP731 (Psoriasis)								893	2,761	4,741	22,518	35,902	47,798		
IMP701 (Solid tumors)								1,541	4,669	8,016	18,996	24,462	30,241		
CVac															
Total Revenues	1,224	1,945	3,169	3,305	3,250	6,555	-	2,434	13,089	27,332	96,520	138,156	174,385		
Expenses															
Cost Of Goods Sold															
COGS % Sales															
Research & Development	2,086	3,499	5,585	3,625	3,698	7,323	7,689	8,073	8,477	8,901	9,346	9,813	10,304		
R&D % Rev's															
General & Administrative Expense	1,630	1,717	3,347	3,117	3,179	6,296	6,611	6,941	7,288	7,653	8,035	8,437	8,859		
SG&A %															
Depreciation and amortization		1,702	1,702	698		698									
Total expenses	3,716	6,917	10,633	7,440	6,877	14,317	14,300	15,015	15,765	16,554	17,381	18,251	19,163		
Oper. Inc. (Loss)	(2,492)	(4,972)	(7,464)	(4,134)	(3,627)	(7,761)	(14,300)	(12,581)	(2,677)	10,778	79,139	119,906	155,222		
Other income and expenses															
Interest income	49	31	80	29		29									
Loss on foreign exchange	(156)	490	333	29		29									
Finance cost															
Changes in fair value of comparability milestone															
Net Change in fair value of financial liability	(288)	(291)	(579)	337		337									
Loss on disposal of assets															
Exchange differences on the translation of foreign operations															
Total other income	(395)	521	(165)	396	-	396	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Pre-tax income	(2,887)	(4,451)	(7,629)	(3,739)	(3,627)	(7,366)	(14,300)	(12,581)	(2,677)	10,778	79,139	119,906	155,222		
Pretax Margin															
Taxes (or benefits)	425	313	738	0		0				539	7,914	17,986	27,940		
Tax Rate										5%	10%	15%	18%		
Exchange differences on the transactions of foreign operations		209	209	395		395									
GAAP Net Income (loss)	(2,462)	(4,347)	(7,101)	(3,344)	(3,627)	(6,970)	(14,300)	(12,581)	(2,677)	10,239	71,225	101,920	127,282		
Non GAAP Net Income (loss)	(2,462)	(4,347)	(7,101)	(3,344)	(3,627)	(7,365)	(14,300)	(12,581)	(2,677)	10,239	71,225	101,920	127,282		
GAAP -EPS	(0.12)	(0.18)	(0.32)	(0.14)	(0.13)	(0.28)	(0.53)	(0.44)	(0.09)	0.33	2.32	3.32	4.13		
Wgt'd Avg Shrs (Bas) - '000s	20,637	23,585	22,111	23,608	26,894	25,251	26,934	28,738	30,548	30,609	30,670	30,731	30,793		
Wgt'd Avg Shrs (Dil) - '000s	20,637	23,585	22,111	23,608	26,894	25,251	26,934	28,738	30,548	30,609	30,670	30,731	30,793		

Source: Company reports and Maxim

DISCLOSURES

Immutep Limited Rating History as of 03/14/2018

powered by: BlueMatrix



Maxim Group LLC Ratings Distribution		As of: 03/14/18	
		% of Coverage Universe with Rating	% of Rating for which Firm Provided Banking Services in the Last 12 months
Buy	Fundamental metrics and/or identifiable catalysts exist such that we expect the stock to outperform its relevant index over the next 12 months.	79%	36%
Hold	Fundamental metrics are currently at, or approaching, industry averages. Therefore, we expect this stock to neither outperform nor underperform its relevant index over the next 12 months.	18%	15%
Sell	Fundamental metrics and/or identifiable catalysts exist such that we expect the stock to underperform its relevant index over the next 12 months.	3%	0%
*See valuation section for company specific relevant indices			

I, Jason McCarthy, Ph.D., attest that the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject security and issuer. Furthermore, no part of my compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendation or views expressed in this research report.

The research analyst(s) primarily responsible for the preparation of this research report have received compensation based upon various factors, including the firm's total revenues, a portion of which is generated by investment banking activities.

Maxim Group makes a market in Immutep Limited

Maxim Group managed/co-managed/acted as placement agent for an offering of the securities for Immutep Limited in the past 12 months.

Maxim Group received compensation for investment banking services from Immutep Limited in the past 12 months.

Maxim Group expects to receive or intends to seek compensation for investment banking services from Immutep Limited in the next 3 months.

IMMP: For Prima Biomed, we use the BTK (Biotechnology Index) as the relevant index.

Valuation Methods

IMMP: Our therapeutic model assumes a royalty structure for each LAG-3 product, initially with IMP701 and IMP731 in 2020 and followed by IMP321 in 2023 (breast cancer). Our models assume risk adjustments for each product based on the stage(s) of development. Our therapeutic

models assume a risk adjustment. We then apply a 30% discount to our free-cash-flow, discounted EPS, and sum-of-the-parts models, which are equally weighted to derive a price target.

Price Target and Investment Risks

IMMP: Aside from general market and other economic risks, risks particular to our price target and rating for Prima Biomed include: (1) Development—To date, LAG-3 checkpoint modulators have not been approved; (2) Regulatory—The company's ongoing and future studies may not be sufficient to gain approval; (3) Commercial—The company lacks commercial infrastructure to support a launch if approved; (4) Financial—The company is not yet profitable and may need to raise additional capital to fund operations; (5) Collaborative—The company has ongoing collaborations with large pharmaceutical companies who could back out of the partnerships, setting back development on product lines and increasing costs; (6) High volatility of the company's stock price.

RISK RATINGS

Risk ratings take into account both fundamental criteria and price volatility.

Speculative – Fundamental Criteria: This is a risk rating assigned to early-stage companies with minimal to no revenues, lack of earnings, balance sheet concerns, and/or a short operating history. Accordingly, fundamental risk is expected to be significantly above the industry. Price Volatility: Because of the inherent fundamental criteria of the companies falling within this risk category, the price volatility is expected to be significant with the possibility that the investment could eventually be worthless. Speculative stocks may not be suitable for a significant class of individual investors.

High – Fundamental Criteria: This is a risk rating assigned to companies having below-average revenue and earnings visibility, negative cash flow, and low market cap or public float. Accordingly, fundamental risk is expected to be above the industry. Price Volatility: The price volatility of companies falling within this category is expected to be above the industry. High-risk stocks may not be suitable for a significant class of individual investors.

Medium – Fundamental Criteria: This is a risk rating assigned to companies that may have average revenue and earnings visibility, positive cash flow, and is fairly liquid. Accordingly, both price volatility and fundamental risk are expected to approximate the industry average.

Low – Fundamental Criteria: This is a risk rating assigned to companies that may have above-average revenue and earnings visibility, positive cash flow, and is fairly liquid. Accordingly, both price volatility and fundamental risk are expected to be below the industry.

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