



Biotech Daily

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Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

*** BIOPHARMICA HLS5 PROJECT WINS \$50k MELANOMA GRANT.**

BIOPHARMICA

Biopharmica says senior researcher Dr Louise Winteringham has received \$50,000 from the Scott Kirkbride Melanoma Research Centre.

The company said Dr Winteringham would use the grant to lead a team at the Western Australian Institute for Medical Research investigating the tumor suppressor gene HLS5 and its potential influence in melanoma.

"We have already uncovered a role for HLS5 in leukemia and breast cancer and during that process we noticed that the gene also interacts with a number of key proteins involved in one of the known growth pathways associated with melanoma," Dr Winteringham said.

"So far, we've found that HLS5 influences the levels of proteins affecting the growth of certain cancer cells, so we will now work to find out whether this is the case for melanoma," Dr Winteringham said. "Ultimately, we hope to be able to pinpoint a target for correcting the defect that contributes to melanoma cell growth."

Biopharmica said it had exclusive rights to the tumor suppressor gene HLS5 and had been investing in the project since 2004.

Biopharmica was untraded at three cents.