

## Company fact sheet

Xenome is a privately held biopharmaceutical company developing a novel therapeutic product for the management of moderate to severe pain. In addition it has an extensive venom peptide library, which forms the basis for drug discovery partnerships with corporate partners. Xenome is headquartered in Brisbane, Australia, with offices in San Diego, California.



Xenome was founded in 2000 and has been financed through Australian venture capital, corporate partners and government grants. The company raised \$10 million in early 2010 to support the clinical development of lead compound, Xen2174 (an analog of a venomous peptide produced by cone snails to immobilise prey).

Xen2174 was discovered and developed utilising Xenome's venom-based discovery platform and its skills in peptide drug design. It is in clinical development for the post operative management of acute pain.

In January 2009 Xenome announced a discovery partnership in which it licensed its xdiscover™ venom peptide library to MedImmune LLC (a wholly-owned subsidiary of AstraZeneca) for the screening of two undisclosed pain targets.

Xenome's major investors are the Australian venture funds: Queensland BioCapital Fund (QBF) and GBS Ventures.

### Business strategy

Xenome is a discovery-based company focused on the development of peptide drugs. It aims to take product candidates through to at least proof-of-concept in human clinical studies before seeking to partner or out-license.



Xenome also complements its drug development activities (and generates revenues) by offering Xenome's libraries to third party pharmaceutical companies. These relationships typically involve the partner taking the lead in screening, then working with Xenome to improve the properties of any hits.

### Technology platform

The venomous animals of Queensland's Great Barrier Reef have evolved to produce a vast array of peptides for the purposes of capturing prey and self-defence. With their wide array of pharmacological properties, the peptides are a rich natural source of new drug scaffolds and form a logical starting point for the development of new pharmacological agents.

Xenome's technology is based on its unique proprietary libraries of cone snail toxin peptides and peptide analogs, and its insights into improving the drug-like properties of peptides.

### Lead compound Xen2174

The Company's lead product, Xen2174, is a novel conopeptide analog being developed for the treatment of moderate to severe pain.

Xen2174 is a non-competitive inhibitor of norepinephrine transporter (NET), a validated target for the management of pain. In an international phase I/II clinical trial in cancer patients, a single intrathecal administration of Xen2174 was found to be safe and well-tolerated across a broad dose range. In addition, the study provided evidence for an analgesic effect that had a rapid onset of action and was long-lasting.

A US phase II study of Xen2174 for the treatment of acute pain following orthopedic surgery (bunionectomy) also provided evidence of analgesic activity in this common pain model.



## Board of directors

### Jim Hazel, BEc, FFin, FAICD – Non-executive Director & Chairman

Mr Hazel, has had an extensive career in banking and investment banking, including as chief general manager of Adelaide Bank Ltd. Until recently he was managing director of an ASX listed retirement village and aged care operation.

He is Chairman of Elders Rural Bank Limited, a director of Becton Property Group Limited, Terramin Australia Limited and Impedimed Limited. He is also Chairman of Valex Group Pty Ltd and a board member of the Council on the Aging (SA) Inc.

### Andrew Baker, BSc. PhD – Non-executive Director

Dr Baker has over 18 years experience in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries, including 14 years working with industry leaders Genentech, Bayer and Johnson & Johnson where he had key responsibilities in directing pharmaceutical and biotechnology research, and identifying and evaluating technology opportunities.

### Cherrell Hirst, MBBS, BEdSt D, Univ (Hon) FAIM, FAICD – Non-executive Director

Dr Hirst spent almost 20 years as assistant Director and then Director of the Wesley Breast Clinic.

She is Deputy Chair and acting CEO of the Queensland BioCapital Funds (QBF – a life sciences venture capital fund) and a non-executive director of Peplin Inc. and Impedimed Ltd, as well as a number of financial companies. She was a member of the AusIndustry IR&D Board Biological Committee from 2001-2006.

### Julie Cherrington, PhD – Non-executive Director

Dr Cherrington is CEO, Pathway Therapeutics, and joined the Xenome Board as an independent, Non-Executive Director on 1 August 2009. She has held numerous posts in Australia and the United States in biotechnology companies, including seats on the boards of ChemGenex and Progen Pharmaceuticals, and senior research positions at prominent biotechnology companies such as SUGEN, Inc and Gilead Sciences, Inc.

### Michael Aldridge, BSc (Hons), MAppFin - Executive Director

Mr Aldridge joined Xenome as Executive Director in May 2010. He has an extensive background in the global biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries having held leadership, strategic, consulting and financing roles in North American, European and Australian companies. As CEO, Director and Consultant with Peplin, Inc. from October 2003 to May 2009, Michael led the growth of a global, dermatology focused, product company developing a new treatment for skin cancer. Peplin was sold to LEO Pharma in 2009 for US\$287 million.

From September 2002 to September 2003, Mr. Aldridge served as a Director of Wilson HTM, an investment bank, in Brisbane, Australia. From 2000 to 2002, he served as an Associate Director of Bear, Stearns & Co.'s Healthcare Investment Banking Group. Prior to that, Mr. Aldridge held similar positions with Volpe Brown Whelan & Company in San Francisco and with the SG Warburg Group in Sydney and London.



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