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# Pharmaxis Ltd. (PXS)

## FY20 Audited Results - No Material Change

### Recommendation

**Buy** (unchanged)

### Price

**\$0.105**

### Valuation

**\$0.20** (unchanged)

### Risk

**Speculative**

### GICS Sector

**Pharmaceuticals & Biotechnology**

### Expected Return

Capital growth	<b>90.5%</b>
Dividend yield	<b>0.0%</b>
Total expected return	<b>90.5%</b>

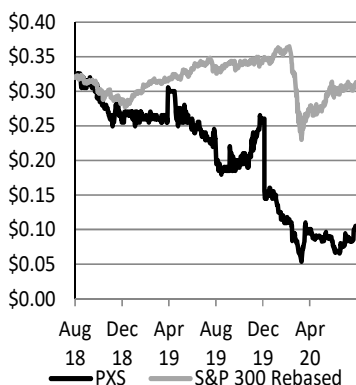
### Company Data & Ratios

Enterprise value	<b>\$34.9m</b>
Market cap	<b>\$41.5m</b>
Issued capital	<b>395.2m</b>
Free float	<b>98.7%</b>
Avg. daily val. (52wk)	<b>\$65,441</b>
12 month price range	<b>\$0.053- \$0.285</b>

### Price Performance

	(1m)	(3m)	(12m)
Price (A\$)	0.08	0.09	0.23
Absolute (%)	36.36	17.98	-54.35
Rel market (%)	33.50	3.70	-47.73

### Absolute Price



SOURCE: IRESS

BELL POTTER SECURITIES LIMITED  
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### Not much new information in the audited financials

There was no material change in the audited FY20 results released today, from the unaudited results as per PXS' quarterly update released earlier. Timelines for key catalysts remain unchanged since the last update. Cash of \$14.8m (along with \$4.9m expected R&D rebate) provide ~12 months runway ahead of boost expected through licensing deal for LOXL-2 and milestone from Chiesi on US approval for Bronchitol.

### Looking forward to a catalyst rich 4QCY20

FDA approval decision for PXS' cystic fibrosis drug Bronchitol is expected on 1<sup>st</sup> Nov'20. The drug is currently a small source of revenue for PXS (\$5.3m sales in FY20) and is marketed in Australia, Europe and Russia. FDA approval will trigger US\$7m milestone from partner Chiesi in 4QCY20, with another US\$3m expected on product shipment in 1QCY21. Following US approval, PXS expects its Bronchitol + Aridol (lung function test) segment which together generated sales of \$7m in FY20 to become profitable, which in turn could open up options for the company to restructure the business. On the drug development side key catalysts include a) decision by partner Boehringer Ingelheim on further development of BI\_1467335 for Diabetic Retinopathy; b) a partnering deal for LOXL-2 program (process taken much longer than expected but new data has re-energised interest in the asset) and c) PXS will start a Phase 1/2 trial with its new pan LOX-inhibitor in myelofibrosis in Dec'20. FDA IND approval for this trial is expected by end of Aug'20. We do not ascribe any value to it as yet.

### Retain Buy (speculative) and Valuation of \$0.20

Given that there was not much new information in the audited financials vs. the unaudited numbers released a few weeks earlier, there is minimal impact to our earnings and valuation. We have primarily updated our model for the actual weighted average shares used for the calculation of diluted EPS and recent expiry and grant of performance rights. There was no change to our forward earnings forecasts. Our valuation remains unchanged at A\$0.20/sh. We retain Buy (Spec). We note that PXS' current price is largely supported by our valuation for the Bronchitol + Aridol segment, with the market ascribing minimal value to its drug development business. That business is approaching key catalysts in 4QCY20 which could re-rate the stock.

### Earnings Forecast

Year end 30th June	2019A	2020A	2021E	2022E	2023E
Revenue (A\$m)	12.2	12.7	31.4	20.2	17.7
EBITDA (A\$m)	-15.7	-12.1	6.2	-5.7	-4.4
NPAT (reported) (A\$m)	-20.1	-13.9	1.9	-10.0	-8.7
NPAT (normalised) (A\$m)	-19.0	-13.4	2.8	-8.9	-7.7
EPS (reported) (cps)	-5.1	-3.4	0.5	-2.5	-2.1
EPS (adjusted) (cps)	-4.8	-3.3	0.7	-2.2	-1.9
EPS growth (%)	N/A	N/A	NM	N/A	N/A
PER (x)	N/A	N/A	15.1	N/A	N/A
EV/EBITDA (x)	-2.2	-2.9	5.6	-6.1	-8.0
Dividend (cps)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Yield (%)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Franking (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
ROE (%)	-128.1%	NM	66.4%	NM	62.1%

NOTE: REVENUE INCLUDES R&D TAX INCENTIVE, MILESTONES FROM BI DEAL AND CHIESI DEAL AND FY21/22 REVENUE INCLUDES RISK ADJUSTED UPFRONT AND MILESTONES FROM LICENSING DEAL FOR LOXL-2. SOURCE: BELL POTTER SECURITIES ESTIMATES

DISCLAIMER: THIS REPORT MUST BE READ WITH THE DISCLAIMER ON PAGE 10 THAT FORMS PART OF IT.  
DISCLOSURE: BELL POTTER SECURITIES ACTED AS JOINT LEAD MANAGER FOR THE \$24M PLACEMENT IN AUGUST 2018 AND RECEIVED FEES FOR THAT SERVICE.

# FY20 Results – No material change from unaudited results

## FY20 –Result Summary

There was no material change in the audited FY20 results released on the ASX today from the unaudited results as per PXS' quarterly update released a few weeks back. The EPS/share numbers have now been updated. A summary of the reported FY20 result is shown in the Table below:

	Result vs PCP			Result vs Forecast	
	FY19A	FY20A	% change	FY20E	Variance (%)
<b>Revenues</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Total operating costs</b>	<b>27.8</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>-11%</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>EBITDA</b>	<b>-15.7</b>	<b>-12.1</b>	<b>-23%</b>	<b>-12.1</b>	<b>0%</b>
Depreciation and Amortisation	-2.6	-3.2	24%	-3.2	0%
<b>EBIT</b>	<b>-18.3</b>	<b>-15.3</b>	<b>-16%</b>	<b>-15.3</b>	<b>0%</b>
Net Interest Income/(expense)	0.4	-0.2	NM	-0.2	0%
Other Income/(expense)	-1.1	2.2	292%	2.2	0%
Pretax Income (Loss)	-19.0	-13.4	-29%	-13.4	0%
<b>Net Income (Loss) after tax - normalised</b>	<b>-19.0</b>	<b>-13.4</b>	<b>-29%</b>	<b>-13.4</b>	<b>0%</b>
Diluted EPS/Share (cents)	-4.84	-3.28	-32%	-3.31	-1%
<b>Reported Net Income (loss)</b>	<b>-20.1</b>	<b>-13.9</b>	<b>-30%</b>	<b>-13.9</b>	<b>0%</b>
Reported Diluted EPS/sh (cents)	-5.12	-3.42	-33%	-3.45	-1%

SOURCE: COMPANY DATA AND BELL POTTER SECURITIES ESTIMATES

**~12 months cash runway:** PXS' had cash at end of FY20 of ~A\$14.8m, which along with the ~\$4.9m R&D rebate expected for FY20, in our view, provides PXS with ~12 months cash runway. A US\$10m Milestone from Chiesi for Bronchitol (US\$7m in 4QCY20 and US\$3m in 1QCY21) and upfront from a LOXL-2 deal in 4QCY20 should further extend this cash runway. The company has a modest debt (related to finance lease) of A\$8.2m.

## No change to Earnings or Valuation

We have reviewed our assumptions for PXS and made adjustments to our forecasts based on PXS' FY20 results. Given that there is not much new information in the audited financials vs. the unaudited numbers released earlier, there is minimal impact to our earnings and valuation.

We have primarily updated our model for the actual weighted average shares used for the calculation of diluted EPS and also incorporated the recent expiry and grant of performance rights. There was no change to our forward earnings forecasts. Our valuation for PXS remains unchanged at A\$0.20/sh. **We retain our Buy (Speculative) recommendation.**

**We value PXS at \$0.20/sh**

	FY2021E			FY2022E			FY2023E		
	Old	New	Change (%)	Old	New	Change (%)	Old	New	Change (%)
Revenues	31.4	31.4	0%	20.2	20.2	0%	17.7	17.7	0%
Interest Income	0.3	0.3	1%	0.3	0.3	4%	0.1	0.1	13%
Operating Costs	25.2	25.2	0%	25.9	25.9	0%	22.1	22.1	0%
EBITDA	6.2	6.2	0%	-5.7	-5.7	0%	-4.4	-4.4	-1%
EBIT	3.0	3.0	0%	-8.9	-8.9	0%	-7.6	-7.6	0%
NPAT (adjusted)	2.8	2.8	0%	-8.9	-8.9	0%	-7.7	-7.7	0%
Adjusted Diluted EPS	0.7	0.7	0%	-2.2	-2.2	0%	-1.9	-1.9	0%
NPAT (reported)	1.9	1.9	0%	-10.0	-10.0	0%	-8.7	-8.7	0%
Reported Diluted EPS	0.5	0.5	0%	-2.5	-2.5	0%	-2.2	-2.1	0%

ALL AMOUNTS IN AUD IN MILLIONS EXCEPT EPS. SOURCE: BELL POTTER SECURITIES ESTIMATES

Our DCF valuation model is based on a WACC of 19.0% and a terminal growth rate of 1%.

**Table 3 - Summary of Valuation**

Forecasts	Base case
Enterprise value from DCF (AUDm)	76.1
Add: Current Cash (AUDm)	14.8
Less: Current Debt	8.2
Equity value (AUDm)	82.7
Total diluted shares (million)	414.9
<b>Value per share (AUD)</b>	<b>\$0.20</b>
Current Share price (AUD)	\$0.105
Expected Capital Growth	90.5%

SOURCE: BELL POTTER SECURITIES ESTIMATES

**Table 4 - PXS Sum-of-parts DCF Valuation Summary**

Asset	Probability adjusted NPV (A\$m)	Value per share (A\$)	% Mix	Probability of success/Risk adjustment	Current Phase
Bronchitol and Aridol	\$28	\$0.07	34.1%	Bronchitol - US (90%)	Marketed for Aridol, Marketed for Bronchitol (Ex-US and Canada)
New Drug Development	\$74	\$0.18	89.4%	BI_1467335 (DR - 23.5%), LOXL-2 (NASH - 18.0%)	BI_1467335 for DR (Phase 2A) and LOXL-2 (Phase 1 complete)
Corporate/Non-Allocated	(\$26)	-\$0.06	-31.6%	NA	NA
Reported Cash	\$15	\$0.04	17.9%	NA	NA
Reported Debt	(\$8)	-\$0.02	-9.9%	NA	NA
<b>Equity Value</b>	<b>\$82.7</b>	<b>\$0.20</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		

SOURCE: BELL POTTER SECURITIES ESTIMATES

**Table 5 – PXS- Key assumptions used in New Drug Development segment**

Asset	Indication	Stage	Partnering Status	First Fiscal Year of sales (Est.)	Peak Market share	Peak Global Sales (US\$m)	Probability of success
BI_1467335	Diabetic Retinopathy (DR)	Phase 2A	Boehringer Ingelheim	2028	10.0%	\$813	23.5%
LOXL-2	NASH - F3/F4 fibrosis stage	Phase 1 complete	Partnering process ongoing	2029	5% (US), (3.5% ROW)	\$1,448	18.0%

GLOBAL PEAK SALES ARE PRE-RISK ADJUSTMENT AND ROYALTIES. SOURCE: BELL POTTER SECURITIES ESTIMATES

**Table 6 – Deal Assumptions for LOXL-2 (expected to be partnered in 2HCY20)**

Asset	Indication	Stage at Licensing	Licensee	Fiscal Year Timing of deal (Est.)	Total Deal Value in USDm (upfront plus milestones)	Upfront (USDm)	Other developmental & regulatory Milestones (USDm)	Commercial Milestones Est (USDm)	Royalty Rate (%)	PXS's share
LOXL-2	NASH and a second indication (potentially IPF)	Phase 1 complete	TBC	2021	700	30	470	200	11.0%	83.0%

NOTE: ROYALTIES ARE LIKELY TO BE TIERED. WE ASSUME A FLAT RATE FOR NOW. FOR LOXL-2 DEAL PXS AND ITS PARTNER SYNAIRGEN WILL SHARE THE DEAL VALUE IN 83:17 RATIO. SOURCE: BELL POTTER SECURITIES ESTIMATES

## Upside Risk to our valuation

- Clinical success will allow for increased probability of success:** We currently assign a 23.5% probability of success (of reaching the market) to BI\_1467335, given that it's currently in a Phase 2A trial, for DR. We envisage that completion of the trial with positive results and subsequent advancement of BI\_1467335 into Phase 2B trials will allow us to assign a higher probability of success and therefore will lead to material upgrades in our numbers. Similarly, we currently assign an 18.0% probability of success (of reaching the market) to LOXL-2 in NASH, following the successful completion of its Phase 1 trial. We envisage that subsequent advancement of LOXL-2

into Phase 2A trials following a partnering deal for it, will allow us to assign a higher POS and therefore will lead to material upgrades in our numbers.

- Conservative assumptions for LOXL-2 to start with in absence of Phase 2 clinical data:** Our market penetration & pricing assumptions and deal size assumptions, are all based on the premise that LOXL-2 will be behind several years to other drugs targeting NASH to get to market. At that stage we expect the drug is more likely than not to be used as an add on therapy with existing standard of care by then to improve efficacy, likely in the more severe end of the fibrosis stage spectrum of NASH. However, given the scarcity of anti-fibrotic assets in development for NASH, we expect both partnering interest and deal size for the LOXL-2 asset with its novel mechanism of action (MoA) to be in line with other high value deals in this space recently. In the absence of Phase 2 clinical data from LOXL-2, we are conservative in our assumptions at this stage including our assumptions for the deal size.
- We do not model royalty revenue from a second indication (likely IPF) for LOXL-2 presently:** At this stage in our valuation, we do not include a market revenue model for LOXL-2 for Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF) as a potential secondary indication and therefore do not model royalty revenue as a percentage of net sales from this indication to PXS. Confirmation of IPF as a second indication by PXS' future partner and progress of this into Phase 2 clinical trials is likely to considerably increase the market opportunity for this asset, in which case it's likely to be a source of considerable upside to our valuation in future.
- No sales milestones from LOXL-2 deal included in our model:** At this stage we do not model PXS' share of the assumed US\$200m sales milestones from a potential LOXL-2 deal in our model. We intend to include it in our model once a LOXL-2 deal is inked by PXS, in which case it's likely to be a source of upside to our valuation.
- Conservative assumptions for BI\_1467335 for DR in absence of Phase 2 clinical data:** Our market penetration & pricing assumptions, are all based on the premise that BI 1467335 will offer a new mechanism of action and a new oral delivery route to treat patients with nonproliferative Diabetic Retinopathy, where currently anti-VEGF drugs with multibillion dollar sales and delivery via intra-ocular injections are the main stay, with laser treatments the second choice of treatment. Our base assumption at this stage is that BI\_1467335 is likely to be used at an earlier stage of the disease and will be priced at a discount to the annual cost of anti-VEGF treatment. We note that the price and market share will ultimately be dictated by efficacy. In the absence of Phase 2 clinical data we are conservative in our assumptions at this stage.
- No value assigned for other early stage pipeline assets:** We also do not include any value for PXS' early stage pan LOX inhibitors (systemic and topical). The LOX inhibitor program is developing a drug which broadly inhibits all the LOX family of enzymes, which has potential anti-fibrotic application in scarring (a topical formulation) and other severe fibrotic indications including some cancers (a systemic formulation).

PXS initiated a Phase 1 trial in healthy volunteers with its LOX systemic asset PXS-5505 in Feb'19. The SAD (single ascending dose) part of this study was completed in June'19 and the MAD (multiple ascending dose) part of the study was completed in 1QCY20. Phase 1 data was positive showing good PK profile and dose related strong inhibition of all LOX family of enzymes. PXS has also generated positive results from PXS-5505 in myelofibrosis and pancreatic cancer in preclinical models and has completed 3 month and 6 month toxicology studies in parallel with the Phase 1 trial in healthy volunteers. IND to start Phase 1/2 (in myelofibrosis, a bone marrow cancer) has been filed with the FDA and PXS intends to initiate recruitment in 4QCY20. PXS-5505 has also been granted orphan drug designation from the FDA for myelofibrosis. PXS' estimate that the myelofibrosis market is valued in excess of US\$1bn per annum.

Preclinical development for the topical asset PXS-6302 was completed in 2QCY20, including initial stability studies of the formulation. Investigator initiated studies to assess the drug in burn related scars and pre-existing scars are being discussed with an Australia based hospitals' burn unit and expected to start in 2HCY20.

PXS believes that the above two assets may have higher potential and value add if developed to Phase 2A or 2B before partnering, vs. the strategy with its later stage assets targeting NASH which it looked to partner at or after Phase 1. Progress of these two assets into Phase 2 trials in future is likely to be a source of upside to our valuation.

- **We model limited markets for Bronchitol and risk adjust the US opportunity:** For Bronchitol, we model the existing markets of Australia, Western Europe including Italy, Eastern Europe and Russia and also model US, following the recent positive recommendation in support of approval by the FDA advisory committee and CRL received from the FDA. PXS' US partner Chiesi is responsible for its commercialisation. Should Bronchitol get approved and launch in US, PXS will receive a US\$10m milestone from Chiesi, additional US\$15m sales milestones and a mid to high teen percentage of royalties on net sales. At this stage we assign US sales and the approval and launch milestones from Chiesi a 90% probability of success, given FDA approval is yet to be granted, although the likelihood based on the CRL is high. FDA approval and launch of Bronchitol in the US therefore will be an upside to our valuation for PXS. We also do not model the US\$15m sales milestone receivable from Chiesi on meeting certain undisclosed sales thresholds at this stage, which would represent an upside.
- **We model limited markets for Aridol:** For Aridol, we model the existing markets of Australia, Europe and South Korea and US where the company relaunched Aridol in Dec'18 following FDA approval of its manufacturing facility. We also now model revenue from Canada. Aridol received approval in Canada in June 2019 and supplied its first (launch) order to Methapharm for Canada in 2QFY20.

## Pharmaxis Ltd. (PXS)

### COMPANY DESCRIPTION

Pharmaxis, is a biopharmaceutical company focused on the development of drugs for inflammatory and fibrotic diseases. Its lead assets Phase 2 SSAO/VAP-1 inhibitor BI\_1467335 partnered in a multi-million dollar deal with Boehringer Ingelheim is targeting Diabetic Retinopathy an area of unmet need and a large market, and currently unpartnered Phase 1 LOXL-2 inhibitors are targeting Non-alcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH), a multibillion dollar market, estimated to grow to be ~US\$20bn-US\$35bn. The LOXL-2 drug while not first-in-class, has evidence that it is best-in-class and can be useful in other fibrotic diseases and we forecast it to be a blockbuster (i.e. have over US\$1bn in peak sales). NASH market is expected to grow with rise in obesity and surpass HCV as the leading cause of liver transplant. There are currently no approved drugs which make the market largely untapped and underserved. The multifactorial aspect of NASH and future treatments likely to be a combination of therapies ensures that companies remain on the lookout for promising assets to license, which bodes well for licensing prospects for PXS' LOXL-2 inhibitors. PXS is also focusing on developing its earlier stage pipeline (LOX assets) targeting scarring and myelofibrosis (est. >\$1bn market). PXS also has two marketed respiratory products Bronchitol and Aridol which is approaching a key inflexion point with the US approval for Bronchitol expected on 1<sup>st</sup> Nov'20. US approval will see the segment generate cash (milestone from partner Chiesi) and become profitable.

### INVESTMENT STRATEGY

We have a Buy (speculative) recommendation on Pharmaxis. Our investment thesis is based on:

**\$0.20 valuation:** We value PXS using a risk adjusted DCF at \$0.20. The valuation is approximately a 90.5% premium to the previous closing share price of \$0.105/sh.

**Turnaround prospects are strong in FY21:** PXS had a disappointing set back in 4QCY19 which caused a significant fall in its stock price, when partner Boehringer Ingelheim (BI) decided to discontinue further development of the partnered SSAO/VAP-1 drug BI\_1467335 for NASH. We believe current price levels are not attributing much value to PXS' drug development business which is approaching key inflexion points in 4QCY20 which could drive a turnaround for PXS. These include: a) Results from phase 2A trials for BI\_1467335 partnered with BI in Diabetic Retinopathy and BI's commercial decision regarding further development of the asset in 4QCY20; b) LOXL-2 asset has successfully completed Phase 1 trials and longer term toxicology studies, as well as added to the data package with further supporting studies providing evidence around its utility in fibrotic disease but also its best in class characteristics. PXS has been in partnering discussions for a while (since Jan'19) which have taken longer than it initially expected. The discussions and due diligence by interested parties are ongoing and we now expect a conclusion of the partnering process in 4QCY20; and c) Initiation of Phase 1/2 myelofibrosis trial with PXS-5505 in Dec'20, for which we currently do not assign any value. Also in 4QCY20 we expect FDA approval decision on Bronchitol, which will trigger a US\$7m milestone from PXS' partner Chiesi in 4QCY20 and another US\$3m in 1QCY21.

**LOXL-2 targeting NASH has blockbuster potential:** Pharmaxis' Phase 1 LOXL-2 asset is targeting Non-alcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH), a multibillion dollar market, estimated to grow to be ~US\$20bn-US\$35bn. We model US\$1.45bn peak worldwide sales (pre risk adjustment) for LOXL-2 in NASH.

**NASH represents significant commercial opportunity:** NASH is a large market, growing rapidly with an increasing obese population. NASH is now the fastest growing reason for a liver transplant in the US and is expected to surpass Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) as the leading cause of liver transplants. There are currently no drugs approved for NASH, which

makes this market largely untapped and underserved and a lucrative market opportunity for PXS to target. There are several drugs in development and interest and competition has both heated up. However, we note that a string of keenly awaited trials have been unsuccessful and the first of the drugs awaiting approval was recently knocked back by the FDA. There have been a number of high value deals in this space and active companies are looking to license or acquire to build a portfolio of assets targeting different stages of NASH. Average deal sizes are ~US\$860m, however some have also been over \$1bn.

**Scarcity of anti-fibrotic assets in development for NASH:** Drugs targeting NASH fall under 3 groups based on their mechanism of action and stage of NASH they target – metabolic modifiers, anti-inflammatory agents and anti-fibrotic agents. It is expected that the future treatment for NASH is likely to be a cocktail of therapies as was seen earlier with HCV. Therefore we see drugs from each of the 3 categories to complement each other and competition likely to be restricted to drugs within the same category. Pharmaxis' LOXL-2 asset is an anti-fibrotic agent and therefore should complement other drugs in advanced development. There are very few drugs in development in this category and as far as we are aware it is the only one in its class being actively developed for NASH.

**Drugs not first-in-class but potentially best-in-class:** PXS' LOXL-2 inhibitors are not the first in their class. However based on pre-clinical data and Phase 1 data, we believe the drugs possess a more favourable PK/PD profile which position them as best-in-class. Data so far provides evidence of good safety profile, good oral bioavailability and potent, long lasting inhibition of targeted enzyme.

**Potential exists to expand the use of lead drugs into broader fibrotic diseases:** Both the lead drugs have potential to be used across fibrotic diseases with both SSAO and LOXL-2 enzymes upregulated in other areas such as lung and kidney, implying a broader utility in treating other diseases such as pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) and kidney fibrosis.

**Partnership with Boehringer Ingelheim validates chemistry platform:** PXS signed a multi-million dollar product acquisition deal with Boehringer Ingelheim (BI) in 2015, which marked the start of the turnaround for the company, strengthened its balance sheet and validated its amine oxidase chemistry platform and its ability to execute valuable deals. Although, the company had a disappointing set back in 4QCY19 with BI choosing to not pursue NASH for the partnered asset anymore, the deal has delivered to date €57m (A\$83m) in upfronts and milestones to PXS and BI is still continuing to develop the asset at this stage for Diabetic Retinopathy. Should BI continue to proceed with further development for DR, PXS stands to receive €177m (~A\$292m) in Phase 3 initiation, filing, approval and pricing milestones. Commercial milestones on reaching sales thresholds and royalties on net sales post approval are also part of the deal as it currently stands.

**Early stage pipeline assets represent future value:** PXS' oral pan LOX inhibitor PXS-5505 is targeting the bone marrow cancer myelofibrosis with an estimated market value of >\$1bn per year. Phase 1 trial is complete and PXS has been granted orphan drug designation by the FDA. IND for a Phase 1/2 trial has been submitted to the FDA (approval expected later in Aug'20), with trial expected to start in 4QCY20. Pre-clinical studies for the topical LOX asset PXS-6302 targeting scarring is now complete. Investigator initiated clinical studies to assess safety and efficacy of the drug in burns related scars and pre-existing scars is expected to start in 2HCY20. We do not assign any value to these assets currently, however they represent future upside on progression into mid stage trials.

**12 months cash runway with near term boost expected:** PXS' had cash at end of FY20 of ~A\$14.8m, which along with the ~\$4.9m R&D rebate expected for FY20, in our view, provides PXS ~12 months cash runway. A US\$10m Milestone from Chiesi for Bronchitol (US\$7m in 4QCY20 and US\$3m in 1QCY21) and upfront from a LOXL-2 deal in 4QCY20 should further extend this cash runway. The company has a modest debt (related to finance lease) of A\$8.2m.

# Risks

The key risks specific to Pharmaxis include, but are not limited to, the following:

- **Clinical risk:** There is a risk that PXS' clinical trials for its pipeline assets fail to reach their endpoints, which would in turn impact its commercial and partnering prospects.
- **Timing and clinical risk on partnered product:** For its partnered product BI\_1467335, PXS is reliant on Boehringer Ingelheim (BI) for development timelines. The ability of PXS' product to finally reach the market and translate into royalty revenue streams for it depends on BI. Delays in timelines will affect medium term milestone payments to PXS as well as its long-term revenue flow. Also if the product fails at any stage of clinical development or BI decides to discontinue its development for DR (as it has already done for NASH) it will have a material adverse effect on our valuation.
- **Reliance on partnerships to unlock value:** The success of PXS' business model is underpinned by its ability to ultimately attract valuable partnering deals for its assets, given PXS lacks the commercial infrastructure to support commercialisation. Our valuation in part is underpinned by PXS' ability to ultimately attract a valuable partnering deal for its LOXL-2 asset. Failure to attract partners for this asset or to negotiate attractive deal terms as we have postulated will impact our forecasts.
- **Bronchitol US approval decision will affect our valuation:** Bronchitol and Aridol, (PXS' currently marketed products) account for ~34% of our current valuation for PXS. US Bronchitol sales are the key driver for revenue and the segment achieving profitability. Therefore if FDA does not approve Bronchitol, it will adversely affect our valuation. FDA decision is expected on 1<sup>st</sup> Nov'20. Chiesi has recently resubmitted its NDA addressing the matters detailed in the CRL issued by the FDA in June'19. Key matters pertain to revisions to packaging and user instructions and running a Human Factor Study after these to test their effectiveness in enabling healthcare professionals to properly conduct a mannitol tolerance test (MTT). We currently assign a 90% probability of success to US sales of Bronchitol.
- **Regulatory risk:** Successful commercialisation of PXS' products is ultimately dependent on getting approval from the regulatory authorities to commercially launch the product. While PXS' partner with much more experience in navigating regulatory channels will be responsible for obtaining approvals, failure to satisfy regulatory requirements could mean that the product will fail to reach the market.
- **Commercial risk:** The pharmaceutical market is intensely competitive and in particular the NASH space which PXS is targeting has several companies engaged in drug development. PXS' products are unlikely to be the first to market and therefore would not have first mover advantage. There is no guarantee that mid-late stage clinical trial results of the LOXL-2 drugs, even if they hit the endpoints of the studies, will be viewed as clinically meaningful by clinicians' vis-à-vis other approved NASH drugs by then on the market. Even if the drugs do get approved on successful pivotal studies, commercial adoption might still be hampered by the cost of the combination (especially since in LOXL-2's case we assume an add-on therapy positioning) or the competition in the NASH market having much larger impact than we have postulated.
- **Funding risk:** Delays in partnering of LOXL-2 is likely to impact PXS' funding position in the short term. PXS has cash of A\$14.8m and debt related to finance lease of A\$8.2m. This along with the expected R&D rebate for FY20 should provide ~12 months cash runway. A US\$10m milestone from Chiesi is due over 4QCY20/1QCY21. However, dependent on the size and cost of a phase 2 myelofibrosis trial, PXS may need to raise additional capital to fund it should there be delays in partnering its LOXL-2 asset.



Table 7 - Financial summary

Pharmaxis Ltd (PXS)						Share price (A\$)	\$0.105				
As at 13 August 2020						Market cap (A\$m)	41.5				
<b>Profit and Loss</b>						<b>Valuation data</b>					
<b>Y/e June 30 (A\$m)</b>	<b>2019A</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>	<b>Y/e June 30</b>	<b>2019A</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
Product Sales Revenues	5.7	7.0	9.1	12.2	14.2	Net profit -normalised (A\$m)	-19.0	-13.4	2.8	-8.9	-7.7
Other Revenue (commercial)	0.0	0.0	21.8	7.4	0.0	EPS - normalised (c)	-4.8	-3.3	0.7	-2.2	-1.9
Other Income	6.5	5.6	0.5	0.5	3.5	EPS growth (%)	N/A	N/A	NM	N/A	N/A
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>31.4</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>17.7</b>	P/E ratio (x)	N/A	N/A	15.1	N/A	N/A
<b>EBITDA</b>	<b>-15.7</b>	<b>-12.1</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>-5.7</b>	<b>-4.4</b>	FCFPS (c)	-5.3	-3.5	2.8	-1.6	-2.2
Depreciation & Amortisation	-2.6	-3.2	-3.2	-3.2	-3.3	Price/FCF (x)	-2.0	-3.0	3.8	-6.5	-4.9
<b>EBIT</b>	<b>-18.3</b>	<b>-15.3</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>-8.9</b>	<b>-7.6</b>	DPS (c)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net interest & Other Income/(Expense)	-0.7	1.9	-0.2	0.0	0.0	Yield (%)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Pre-tax profit</b>	<b>-19.0</b>	<b>-13.4</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>-8.9</b>	<b>-7.7</b>	Franking (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tax	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	EV/EBITDA	-2.2	-2.9	5.6	-6.1	-8.0
<b>Net profit (loss) normalised</b>	<b>-19.0</b>	<b>-13.4</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>-8.9</b>	<b>-7.7</b>	EV/EBIT	-1.9	-2.3	11.7	-3.9	-4.6
Abnormal items	-1.1	-0.6	-1.0	-1.1	-1.1						
<b>Reported Net profit (loss)</b>	<b>-20.1</b>	<b>-13.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>-10.0</b>	<b>-8.7</b>						
<b>Cashflow</b>						<b>Share price now (A\$)</b> \$0.105					
<b>Y/e June 30 (A\$m)</b>	<b>2019A</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>	<b>Valuation (A\$):</b>	\$0.20				
Reported NPAT	-20.1	-13.9	1.9	-10.0	-8.7	Premium (discount) to price	90.5%				
Non-cash items	5.6	2.2	4.6	4.6	4.5	<b>Recommendation:</b>	Buy				
Net change in Working capital	-5.4	-1.6	5.1	-0.2	-3.2	<b>Risk Rating</b>	Speculative				
<b>Operating cashflow</b>	<b>-19.8</b>	<b>-13.3</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>-5.6</b>	<b>-7.5</b>	<b>Profitability ratios</b>					
Capex	-0.6	-0.3	-0.3	-0.5	-0.7	<b>Y/e June 30</b>	<b>2019A</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
Investments	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	EBITDA margin (%)	N/A	N/A	19.8%	N/A	N/A
Investments in intangible assets	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.4	EBIT margin (%)	N/A	N/A	9.5%	N/A	N/A
Other investing cash flow	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Return on assets (%)	-36.0%	-37.8%	7.9%	-36.4%	-56.0%
<b>Investing cashflow</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	Return on equity (%)	-128.1%	NM	66.4%	NM	62.1%
Change in borrowings	-1.6	-2.2	-2.3	-2.0	-2.5	Dividend cover (x)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Equity issued	22.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Effective tax rate (%)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Dividends paid	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<b>Liquidity and leverage ratios</b>					
Other financing cash flow	-0.3	-0.3	-0.7	-0.8	-1.0	<b>Y/e June 30</b>	<b>2019A</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
<b>Financing cashflow</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>-3.0</b>	<b>-2.7</b>	<b>-3.5</b>	Net debt (cash) (A\$m)	-24.0	-6.6	-16.5	-9.1	0.6
<b>Net change in cash</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-16.4</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>-9.1</b>	<b>-12.0</b>	<b>Net debt/equity (%)</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Cash at end of period*</b>	<b>31.1</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>1.7</b>	Net interest cover (x)	NM	N/A	NM	N/A	N/A
<small>* Includes effect of exchange rate fluctuations on cash balance</small>						Current ratio (x)	5.0	3.6	3.7	2.3	1.1
<b>Free cash flow (op. CF less capex and intangibles)</b>	<b>-20.8</b>	<b>-13.9</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>-6.4</b>	<b>-8.5</b>	<b>Segmentals</b>					
<b>Balance sheet</b>						<b>Y/e June 30</b>	<b>2019A</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
<b>Y/e June 30 (A\$m)</b>	<b>2019A</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>	<b>Bronchitol and Aridol</b>					
Cash	31.1	14.8	22.8	13.7	1.7	Product Sales	5.7	7.0	9.1	12.2	14.2
Current receivables	7.2	6.9	1.7	1.8	4.9	Other revenue (Clinical trial cost reimbursement)	0.0	0.0	12.9	0.0	0.0
Inventories	2.1	2.6	2.8	3.0	3.2	Other income	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other current assets	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>14.2</b>
<b>Current assets</b>	<b>40.6</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>EBITDA</b>	<b>-5.0</b>	<b>-4.0</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>1.7</b>
PPE	10.3	8.9	6.1	3.5	1.0	<b>New Drug Development</b>					
Non-current receivables	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	Product Sales	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Intangible assets	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.6	Other revenue (Milestone+license+royalty)	0.0	0.0	8.9	7.4	0.0
Other non-current assets	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Other income (R&D tax incentive etc.)	6.0	5.2	0.0	0.0	3.0
<b>Non-current assets</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>3.0</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>52.7</b>	<b>35.4</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>EBITDA</b>	<b>-6.8</b>	<b>-5.1</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>-2.8</b>	<b>-2.8</b>
Payables	4.8	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	<b>Corporate</b>					
Debt	7.2	8.2	6.3	4.6	2.3	Other income	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Provisions	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	<b>EBITDA</b>	<b>-3.9</b>	<b>-3.0</b>	<b>-3.3</b>	<b>-3.3</b>	<b>-3.3</b>
Financial liabilities (Novaquest financing agreement)	23.6	21.2	20.5	19.8	18.8	<b>Total Company</b>					
Deferred Lease Incentive	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Revenues	12.2	12.7	31.4	20.2	17.7
Other liabilities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<b>EBITDA</b>	<b>-15.7</b>	<b>-12.1</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>-5.7</b>	<b>-4.4</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>37.9</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>Interims</b>					
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>-4.7</b>	<b>-12.3</b>	<b>Y/e June 30 (A\$m)</b>	<b>2H19A</b>	<b>1H20A</b>	<b>2H20A</b>	<b>1H21E</b>	<b>2H21E</b>
Shareholders' equity	367.3	367.3	367.3	367.3	367.3	Revenue	9.7	3.8	8.9	21.7	9.7
Reserves	21.8	22.3	23.3	24.3	25.4	<b>EBITDA</b>	<b>-5.8</b>	<b>-8.0</b>	<b>-4.1</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>-4.0</b>
Retained earnings/(losses)	-374.2	-388.2	-386.3	-396.3	-405.0	Depreciation & Amortisation	-1.3	-1.6	-1.6	-1.7	-1.5
<b>Total shareholders equity</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>-4.7</b>	<b>-12.3</b>	<b>EBIT</b>	<b>-7.2</b>	<b>-9.6</b>	<b>-5.7</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>-5.5</b>
						Net interest & Other Expense	0.1	-0.2	2.1	-0.1	-0.1
						Pre-tax profit	-7.1	-9.8	-3.6	8.4	-5.6
						Tax	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
						<b>Net Profit (loss) - normalised</b>	<b>-7.1</b>	<b>-9.8</b>	<b>-3.6</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>-5.6</b>
						Net Profit (loss) - reported	-7.5	-10.3	-3.6	8.0	-6.1

SOURCE: BELL POTTER SECURITIES ESTIMATES

**Recommendation structure**

**Buy:** Expect >15% total return on a 12 month view. For stocks regarded as 'Speculative' a return of >30% is expected.

**Hold:** Expect total return between -5% and 15% on a 12 month view

**Sell:** Expect <-5% total return on a 12 month view

*Speculative Investments are either start-up enterprises with nil or only prospective operations or recently commenced operations with only forecast cash flows, or companies that have commenced operations or have been in operation for some time but have only forecast cash flows and/or a stressed balance sheet.*

*Such investments may carry an exceptionally high level of capital risk and volatility of returns.*

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**Disclosure:** Bell Potter Securities acted as joint lead manager for the \$24m placement in August 2018 and received fees for that service.

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The stocks of biotechnology companies without strong revenue streams from product sales or ongoing service revenue should always be regarded as speculative in character. The fact that the intellectual property base of a typical biotechnology company lies in science not generally regarded as accessible to the layman adds further to the riskiness with which biotechnology investments ought to be regarded. Clinical and regulatory risks are inherent in biotechnology stocks. Biotechnology developers usually seek US FDA approval for their technology which is a long and arduous three phase process to prove the safety, effectiveness and appropriate application or use of the developed drug and even after approval a drug can be the subject of an FDA investigation of subsequently discovered possible links between the drug and other diseases not previously diagnosed. Furthermore, the Australian exchange listed biotechnology sector is subject to influence by the global biotechnology sector, particularly that in the USA. Consequently, Australian exchange listed biotechnology stocks can experience sharp movements, both upwards and downwards, in both valuations and share prices, as a result of a re-rating of the sector both globally and in the USA, in particular. Investors are advised to be cognisant of these risks before buying such a stock including **Pharmaxis Ltd.** For a list of risks specific to **Pharmaxis** please refer to **Page 8 of this note.**

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