



# **First Take**

### **Kazia Therapeutics Limited (KZIA)**

December 7, 2021

Price: \$7.92; Market Cap (M): \$116; 12/6/2021 Close

Rating: Buy; Price Target: \$17.00

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## Phase 2 In Line With Expectations; A Catalyst-Rich 2022; Reiterate Buy

**P2** final results confirm paxalisib efficacy. On December 3, Kazia announced the final results from the Phase 2 study of paxalisib, the company's lead PI3K inhibitor, for the treatment of newly diagnosed glioblastoma multiforme (GBM). According to the company, patients treated with paxalisib (n=30) achieved a median overall survival (mOS) of 15.7 months and a median progression-free survival (mPFS) of 8.4 months, which compare favorably to historical mOS of 12.7 months and mPFS of 5.3 months when treated using standard-of-care temozolomide. While we note that the final mOS results are slightly lower than the 17.5 months reported during the interim readout, we nonetheless believe that it represents a significant improvement over current standard-of-care. Furthermore, paxalisib maintained its advantage over temozolomide in terms of mPFS, which provides us with additional confidence in a positive outcome from the ongoing Phase 3 GBM AGILE study. Considering the significant unmet need in the treatment of GBM, we believe that paxalisib has the potential to become the new treatment of choice for this indication.

**Multiple clinical readouts expected in 2022.** In addition to GBM AGILE, the company is working with several academic institutions to investigate the use of paxalisib across multiple indications, with several early-stage studies expected to report interim results next year. Some of the noteworthy results we are expecting include: (1) initial results from the Phase 2 Her-2 positive breast cancer brain metastases in 1H22; (2) initial results from the Phase 2 brain metastases study by the Alliance Group in 1H22; (3) initial results from the Phase 1 brain metastases study at Memorial Sloan Kettering in 1H22; and (4) initial results from the Phase 1 dose-escalation study of EVT801, the company's VEGFR3 inhibitor, in 2H22. We believe that positive results from these studies could become major catalysts for the stock.

**Valuation.** We maintain our Buy rating of KZIA and our 12-month price target of \$17.00 per ADS. We derive our price target based on a risk-adjusted net present value (rNPV) analysis of projected future royalty revenues from paxalisib, assuming an 14% discount rate and a 0% terminal growth rate. We derive an rNPV of A\$374M for the product and add in *pro forma* net cash and cash equivalents of A\$31M, to arrive at a 12-month price target of \$17 per diluted ADS.

**Risks:** (1) clinical; (2) commercial; (3) financial; (4) partnership; (5) intellectual property; and (6) impact from COVID-19.

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Distribution of Ratings Table as of December 3, 2021					
			IB Se	IB Service/Past 12 Months	
Ratings	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
Buy	557	90.57%	201	36.09%	
Neutral	54	8.78%	12	22.22%	
Sell	1	0.16%	0	0.00%	
Under Review	3	0.49%	1	33.33%	

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